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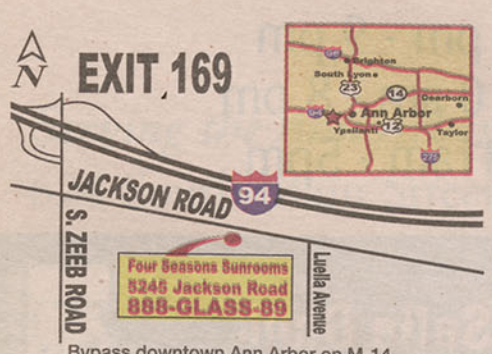

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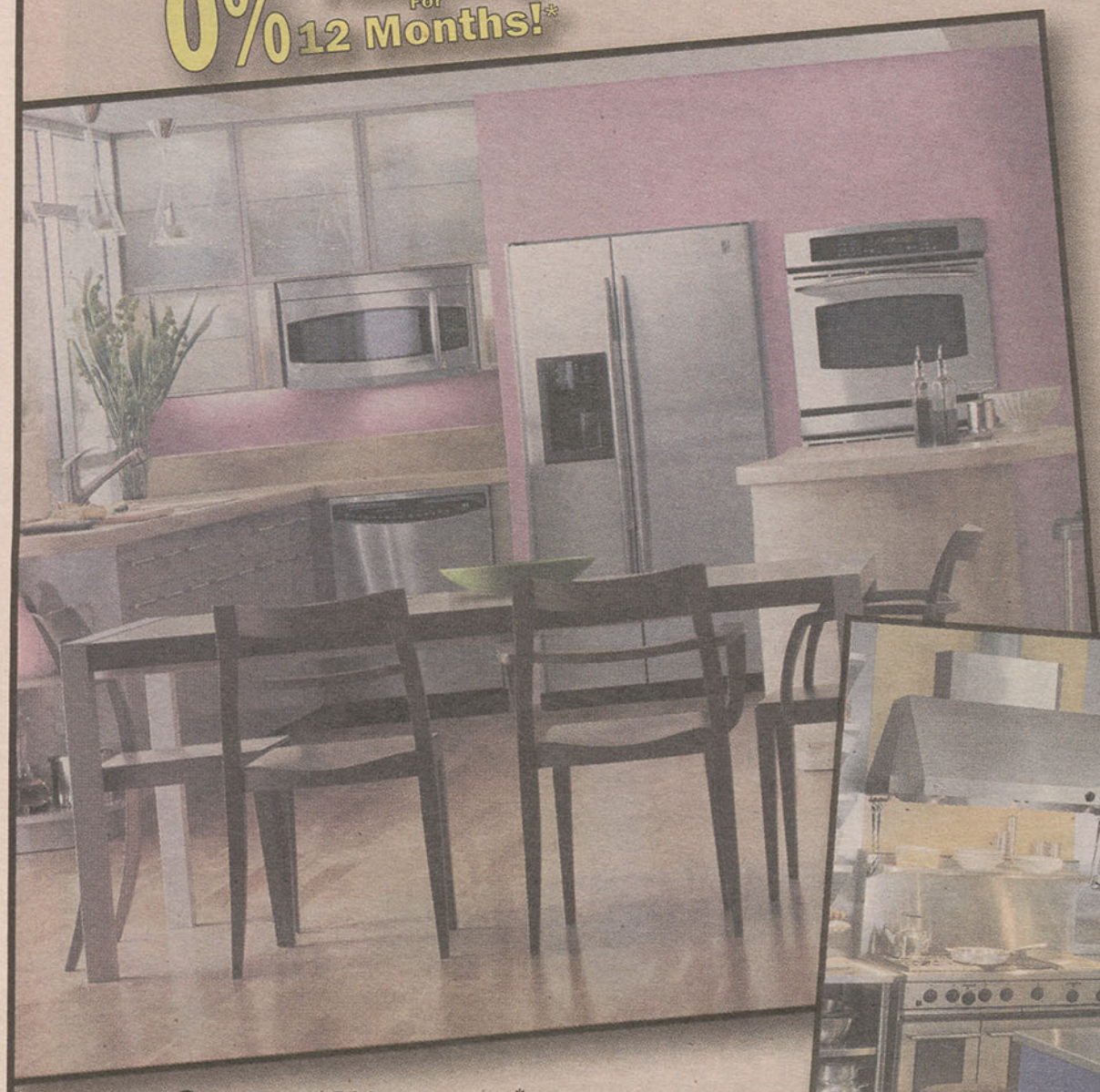

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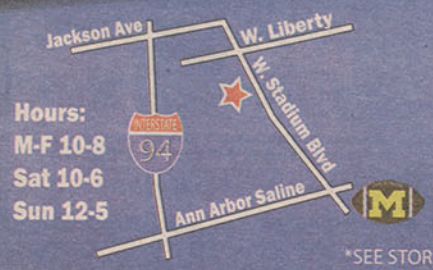

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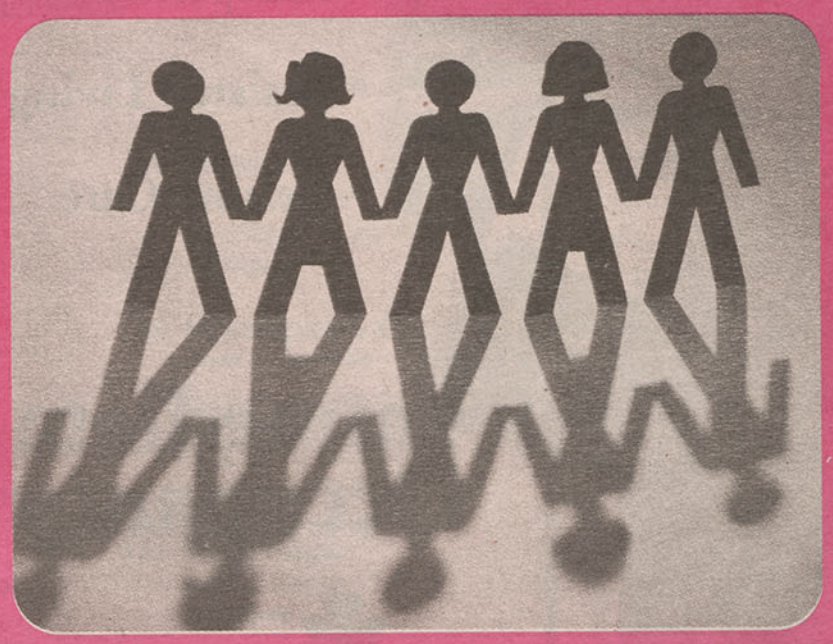

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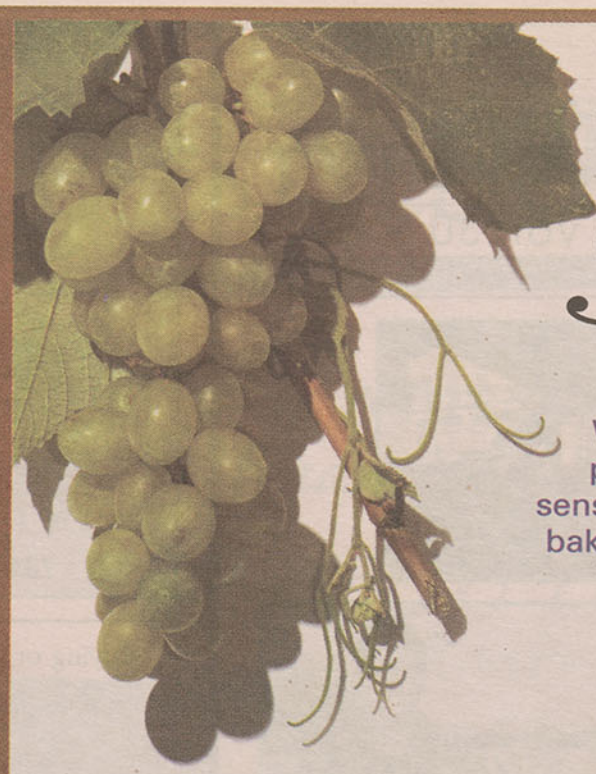

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- We are committed to helping you find the perfect wine for any occasion.
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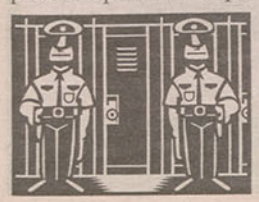
Bello Vino Marketplace

UPFRONT

Condomania: Within two weeks of its giddy February opening, fifty-seven people put down $2,000 deposits to reserve units in Ashley Terrace. That's nearly two-thirds of the ninety-two condominiums in the $36 million, ten-story building planned for the corner of Ashley and Huron downtown. But developer Joseph Freed Homes still faces the toughest phase of condominium development: turning those reservations into the signed purchase agreements needed to get bank financing for the project. That next step will cost buyers $8,895 to $60,000, depending on the price of the unit: options range from a third-floor, $177,900, 648-square-foot studio to a $1.2 million, 2,700-square-foot penthouse. Responding to strong interest in the largest penthouse, Chicago-based Freed—owned by U-M grad Larry Freed—combined two smaller top-floor units to create another one, nearly as grand, at $990,000 and 2,500 square feet. By mid-February six of the eight penthouses were reserved. "Given our sales success so far, we are in a great position to move forward," says Kristine Gosselin, Freed's Michigan director of sales and marketing. "We expect to start construction in late spring." Ashley Terrace is one of four condo complexes Freed has in process in Michigan, along with a proposed rental apartment building at the corner of Glen and Ann in Ann Arbor. To judge by the decor of Ashley Terrace's showcase unit, housed in a sales trailer near the site, Freed knows the local market: pantry contents include organic apple juice and soy milk.

Crime and punishment: Parents of a formerly homeschooled boy have taken their son out of Pioneer High after school officials refused to expel a classmate who allegedly assaulted him last November. The parents weren't satisfied that school officials' promises to monitor the assailant, who is a special education student, are enough to ensure their son's safety. In a written statement to police, the victim said he was harassed and punched in a drafting class and then attacked with a sharp-edged plastic "eraser shield." The victim's finger was cut when he held up his hands to protect his face. According to district rules, anything used intentionally to harm another student constitutes a weapon, and its use requires expulsion under the "zero tolerance" weapons policy—but zero tolerance doesn't apply to special ed students. The attacker got only a three-day suspension plus unspecified supervision measures.



The county prosecutor's juvenile division is taking the matter much more seriously: it's charged him with assault with a dangerous weapon, a felony. No court date has been set.

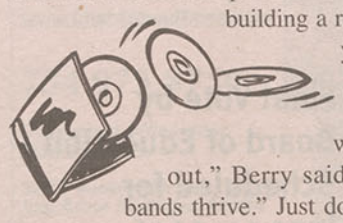
City Hall on the move? In February the county board of commissioners voted to allow Ann Arbor's Fifteenth District Court to stay in the County Courthouse on Huron Street till 2009. This gives the city a little longer to resolve its City Hall problems—which recently have taken a whole new direction. The city has been considering an addition to the current City Hall to house the district court and the police department—but when city administrator Roger Fraser explained the plan to a skeptical Downtown Development Authority committee last October, members weren't enthusiastic about investing the requested $15 million. Partly in response to that feedback, Fraser told a regional planning meeting in February that the city is now considering building an all-new City Hall near the Ann Arbor District Library. As described at the DDA's winter retreat, the building would be part of a "civic center" that would feature a public plaza on the current library parking lot, 400 underground parking spaces, and space for the district court. Financing for the $60 million project is still to be determined—but part could come from selling the current City Hall on Huron.

Wiretapping lawsuit: Local Islamic activist Nazih Hassan is a plaintiff in an American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit challenging the Bush administration's controversial domestic spying program. "This illegal wiretapping just has a chilling effect on everyone," says Hassan, who chairs the board of directors of the Islamic Center. A native of Lebanon who phones there frequently, Hassan suspects his own calls have been intercepted. Hassan also was active in the campaign to aid Rabih Haddad, the Ann Arbor cleric and fund-raiser who was deported to Lebanon in 2003. Hassan hopes his activism won't jeopardize his own application for American citizenship, but says he'll continue to advocate no matter what: "The history of the U.S. shows that you stand up for your rights or you'll be trampled upon."

What does it cost? **$2.89**—"pretzel dog" (hot dog cooked in a pretzel wrap), at Auntie Anne's Pretzels . . . **$46**—office visit to check out a new pupy, at Ann Arbor Animal Hospital (vaccinations extra) . . . **$55**—teen facial ("will go a long way to making your favorite teen look and feel better"), at Bellanina . . . **$40**—"beauty packet" of ten tree and shrub seedlings (includes lilac, flowering dogwood, and tulip tree), from the Washtenaw County Conservation District.

Ten for $10: Local Kroger shoppers may be wondering just what "ten" means to the Cincinnati-based grocery chain. Bright yellow signs at the Maple Road and South Industrial stores in January and February promoted half gallons of milk at "10 for $10"—but a fine-print disclaimer added, "Limit 6 total." So can customers really buy ten for $10—or just six for $6? Asked for comment on the apparent false advertising, spokeswoman Monica Gordon confirmed that a Limit 6 sign was still posted on South Industrial—and had it removed immediately. Gordon suggested the fine print may have been included by accident when elements were selected from a computer database. "They did take that [sign] down and ensured that the milk was scanning ten for ten dollars," Gordon reiterated. So at Kroger, "10" means "10"? "Absolutely," said Gordon.

How to get a gig: Don't bother with a fancy press kit. That's one tip a panel of local music presenters gave a host of hopefuls at Washtenaw Community College at the end of January. "Certain pictures could turn me off," warned the Ark's Dave Siglin; the first time he books a band, all he cares about is the music. "Kits get tossed except for the music," concurred Jason Berry of the Blind Pig. "I keep the CD and wait for you to call me back." If you don't call, you'll never get a gig at the Pig. Persistence pays, agreed Top of the Park's Scott McWhinney: "If a band's gigging regularly and they apply three years in a row, I'm going to be looking at them." And don't discount parties as a way of building a record. "If you pack a house party, I will find out," Berry said. "Those bands thrive." Just don't bader Susan Chastain of the Firefly Club on the street: "Persistence is one thing, but I sure don't like to be threatened." Oh—and after you've landed that first engagement, don't decide that promoting you is the club's job. Dave Siglin booked a personal acquaintance to play at the Ark, but discovered later that the performer's best friend didn't even know he was playing. The crowd was sparse, and the performer's Ark career was over.



Dance till you drop: It's the U-M's largest student organization, and probably the most lucrative. On March 25, as many as 1,000 volunteers are slated to arrive at the Indoor Track Building, where they will spend the next thirty hours dancing—no sitting or sleeping allowed. Since the U-M Dance Marathon debuted in 1998, it's raised more than $1 million to support physical, speech, and occupational therapy for children—including $300,000 last year alone. Many of the dancers have a long-term commitment to the marathon: besides pledging to raise at least $250, they get to know kids who benefit from the event and their families at social events throughout the school year. Putting it all together is a "huge operational undertaking," says parent Dawn Northrup, whose twelve-year-old son, Colin, has cerebral palsy and has needed physical and other therapies since he was a baby. With help from the marathon, he has participated in summer camp programs and "copiloted" a small plane.

The thirty hours of the marathon are broken up into segments; dancers are energized by student entertainment such as a cappella singers and a dance group. There's a food table, bathroom breaks, and testimonials from people who have benefited from the marathon fund. But most of the time is spent, well . . . dancing.

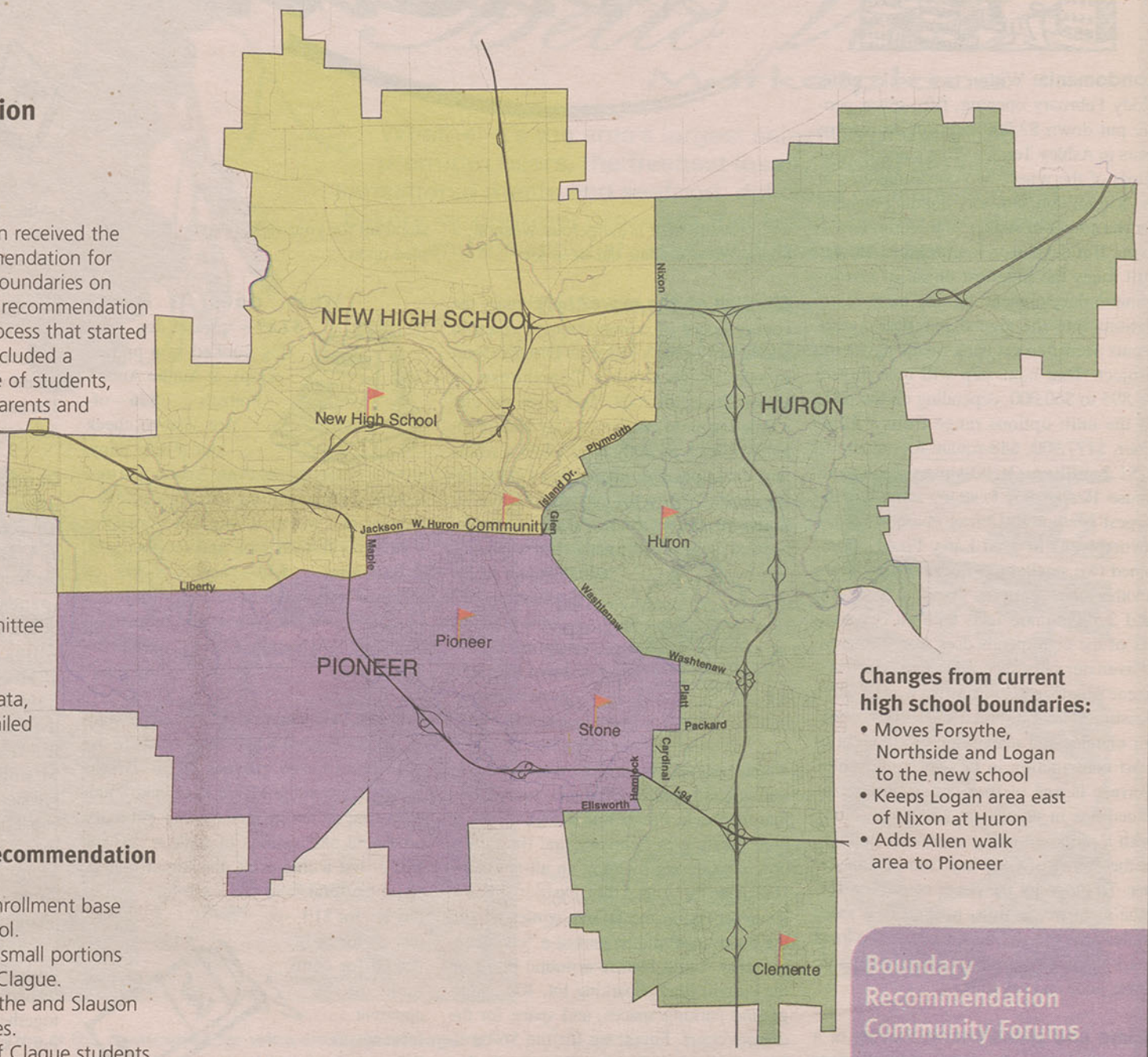
Overheard: In cereal aisle of People's Food Co-op on Fourth Avenue. Father addressing child under age two, whom he's carrying: "Can you say 'pie'?" Gurgling from child. "Do you know what 'pi' is? It's the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter."

Ann Arbor Public Schools

High School Boundary Recommendations

Final Vote by Board of Education Scheduled for June 14, 2006

The Board of Education received the administration recommendation for the new high school boundaries on February 8, 2006. The recommendation was derived from a process that started in August 2005 and included a 27-member committee of students, staff, administrators, parents and community members. The recommendation process included the development of guiding parameters, a web survey, six community forums and four neighborhood center visits. The committee carefully considered nine scenarios and thoroughly reviewed data, best practices and detailed research to reach the recommendation.



Changes from current high school boundaries:

- Moves Forsythe, Northside and Logan to the new school
- Keeps Logan area east of Nixon at Huron
- Adds Allen walk area to Pioneer

Strengths of the Recommendation

- Solid geographical enrollment base at the new high school.
- Does not splinter off small portions of either Forsythe or Clague.
- Follows current Forsythe and Slauson attendance boundaries.
- Significant number of Clague students will go to the new high school.
- Major geographical breaks (roads) are used to divide the boundary between Huron and the new high school.
- Diversity balance is maintained at all three high schools.
- No neighborhood groups were splintered.
- Enrollment is reduced at both Huron and Pioneer.
- 300 choice seats will be available at the new high school.
- AATA has committed public bus service to the new high school.
- The new high school can be reached from the northeast with or without accessing M-14.

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All begin at 7:00 p.m. Everyone in the community is invited to these community forums.

March 7
Tappan Middle School
2251 E. Stadium Blvd.

March 9
Scarlett Middle School
3300 Lorraine

March 13
Clague Middle School
2616 Nixon Rd.

March 16
Slauson Middle School
1019 W. Washington

March 20
Forsythe Middle School
1655 Newport Rd.

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INSIDE ann arbor

DEVELOPMENT

Promises, Promises

Three years later, Broadway Village is still only a vision.

Ambitious plans were announced in late 2002 to turn the old shopping center at Broadway and Maiden Lane into "Broadway Village at Lower Town." The project would clean up contamination from the old Armen Cleaners and replace a junkyard, strip shopping center, and abandoned supermarket with new apartments and offices, a hotel and "healthplex," spaces for outdoor dining and public art, and a greenway along Traver Creek. At a meeting in April 2003, U-M architecture dean Doug Kelbaugh, a consultant to the project, said that it presents a "historic opportunity for doing the right thing in the right place."

Doing the right thing wouldn't come cheap: Strathmore Development Company wanted local and state governments to pay for $47 million of the projected $137 million cost through "tax increment financing" (TIF). Lowertown Development LLC would apply for a brownfield grant that would capture the increased taxes due to the development. The city would issue bonds that would be repaid by the TIF income. In addition, the city would pay for construction of a parking deck. In return the developer would pay the city $500,000 a year and deed the parking deck and the Traver Creek greenway to the city. Though some neighbors objected, and two council representatives from the area were opposed, council approved the site plan in October 2003 and the development agreement—including a promise to issue bonds for up to $40 million—in August 2004.

To minimize the city's risk, the development agreement specified that Strathmore had to show that at least 75 percent of the office and retail space was leased before the city would go forward with the financing. This was especially important after an independent appraiser estimated that the market value of the completed project would be only $65 million—just half the cost of construction.

In January 2005, Strathmore president Scott Chappelle announced in the *Ann Arbor News* that leases should be finalized "in the next month." But the city decided the leases Strathmore submitted didn't meet the requirements in the development agreement—in part because one "tenant" was owned or controlled by the developer. Without satisfactory lease commitments, city attorney Stephen Postema wrote in June, "the city will not begin efforts to issue and sell bonds . . . nor will [it] begin work on . . . the Parking Deck Agreement."

GRIFFIN LINDSAY

Approved by the city in October 2003, the massive Broadway Village project has yet to break ground. Developer Scott Chappelle says he'll submit the leases required to obtain city financing shortly—but floodplain issues still must be worked out as well.

Good news came last November with a state Clean Michigan grant of $700,000 and loan of $300,000 to begin cleanup of the site. But the necessary leases remained elusive. News stories in December and February quoted Chappelle as expecting financing to be complete in February. In mid-February, Chappelle told the Observer that he expects the city to begin reviewing the leases within the next couple of months.

Broadway Village has evolved significantly since its unveiling. The apartments and commercial space are still planned, but the healthplex and hotel are gone. Instead, Chappelle says, the anchor tenants will be medical offices—an easier sell, given the site's proximity to the U-M Medical Center. Chapelle says that building the revised project will cost $170 million, and that he expects to break ground "as soon as weather permits."

City officials confirm that while no leases have been received for review as of mid-February, they have heard that a meeting is being requested. After the leases and the financial plan are approved by the city, chief financial officer Tom Crawford says, "we'll begin discussing bonding."

Leasing isn't the only hurdle facing Broadway Village. An amended site plan, submitted in March 2004, reduced the amount of storm-water detention on site and raised floodplain issues with the county drain commissioner's office. Two years later, city, drain commission, and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality staff are still trying to resolve these questions. According to city staff, no construction or site preparation work may begin until the amended plan gets final approval.

RELIGION

A Mysterious Sect on Pontiac Trail

"The Roberts Group" is ready for Judgment Day.

"What's the story behind the men with full beards and wearing tunics who ride bikes around town?" a reader asked in the January Observer's Question Corner. "Are they part of an organization?" It turns out

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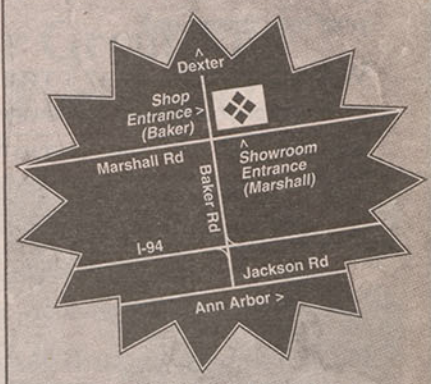

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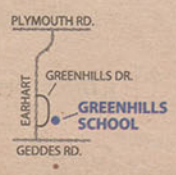

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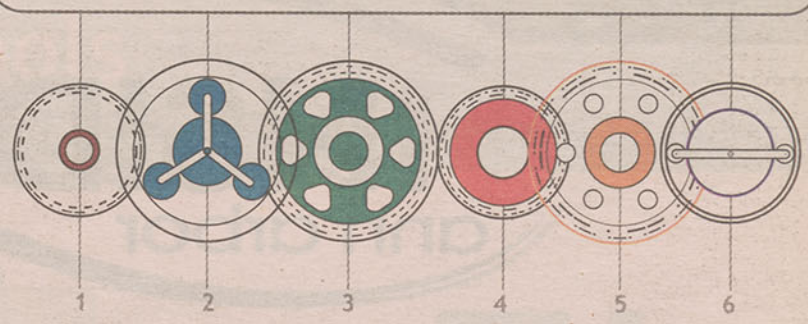

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Director of U of M writing program

2 November 7
JIM HORTON, printmaking
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3 December 5
TOM FRIEDLANDER, antique tools
Greenhills School faculty

4 February 6
SCOTT ELLSWORTH, Tulsa race riot
Duke University

5 March 6
DOUG NOWACEK, whales and dolphins
Florida State University faculty *

6 May 8
PETER SPARLING, dance
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GRIFFIN LINDSAY

Observer readers connected a group of enigmatic, bearded bicyclists to this house on Pontiac Trail—as well as to a controversial Christian sect. One website calls the unnamed group of nomadic scavengers "high-demand but benign." A former member calls it a cult and charges that members are dominated by founder Jim Roberts.

they are—though not, as Question Corner originally guessed, associated with the Orthodox Jewish Chabad House.

In response to an appeal in the February Observer, Fran Wright e-mailed to suggest that we check out "the little white frame house opposite Northside School on Pontiac Trail. . . . They live there, fix bicycles, and sell them on their curb in the summer.

"A cult, or just a few individuals choosing this Pakistani-style dress?" Wright asked. "I don't know."

Another reader, who didn't want to be named, knew more. "The folks who were stumping the Q&A column are my neighbors," he e-mailed. In a follow-up phone interview, he elaborated: "They're living in this lady's house that was vacant and gutted for many years. They ride their bikes around, collect the student detritus, and sell that at yard sales to pay their utilities. . . . They got a lot of stink eye around September 11, with their crazy beards and their garb, which is somewhat third-worldish."

The residents "belong to a secretive religious cult founded in 1971 called the Brethren," e-mailed Garret Carlson. "They eat from Dumpsters and are in Ann Arbor to recruit young people attending college." Still another reader sent the address of a website (bigfoot.com/~trgpn) operated by grieving parents whose children cut off contact after joining what the families call "the Roberts Group," after founder and leader Jim Roberts.

Another website, religioustolerance.org/body_chr.htm, takes a more sympathetic view. Rejecting allegations of mind control, it describes the small, nomadic sect as "a high-demand but benign Christian group." They've been at least an occasional presence in Ann Arbor since the 1970s. In his book *From Dean's List to Dumpsters: Why I Left Harvard to Join a Cult*, former member Jim Guerra recalls meeting other members at the Michigan Union before his baptism in a frigid lake in the Brighton Recreation Area.

Intrigued, two Observer staffers knocked on the door. Getting no answer, they left a business card. A week later, a man called. He wouldn't give his name, asking to be identified only as "Christian" or "a Christian." When asked whether he belonged to the Roberts Group, he replied, "I guess I don't want to say yes or no." In an apparent reference to an anti-Roberts website, he described it as the product of disgruntled former members. "Would you ask a bunch of people who had been fired [about their workplace]?" he asked rhetorically. "Probably not.

"We're kind of a small Christian group, trying to learn the right ways of God," the man explained. He said he had been raised as Jewish, but "when I was older, I was looking for peace in my life and I tried a number of things—going to school, and working jobs, and music. . . ." Peace came, he says, when he joined the group at age twenty-three (he's forty-five now).

Although he acknowledged sometimes trying to talk to students on campus, "Christian" denied that the group was "actively trying to recruit. We talk to people, as God permits. We like to share the good news that we've found.

"A lot of what we do seems possibly not very appealing to people on the outside," he continued. "But if you turn the tables around and see there's a Judgment Day, then you might see things differently."

The Pontiac Trail missionaries' plans are unclear. The neighbor who didn't want to be identified says he once asked a resident how the group decided what to do next. He says he was told, "We just kind of pray for the Lord's guidance." Asked whether they'd done that, the member replied, "Yeah, and we haven't got any guidance—so we're just hanging out here in Ann Arbor." ■

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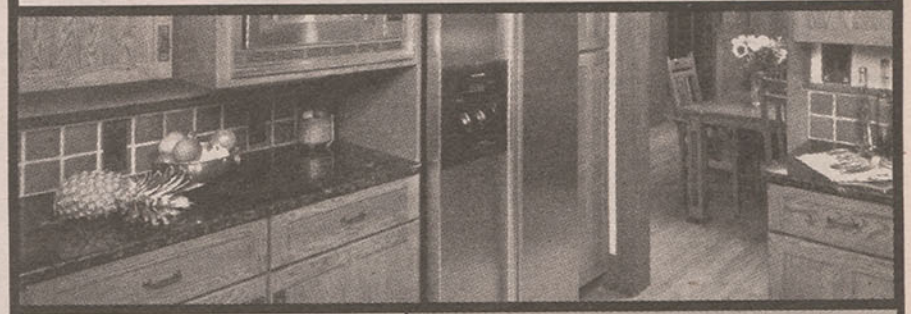

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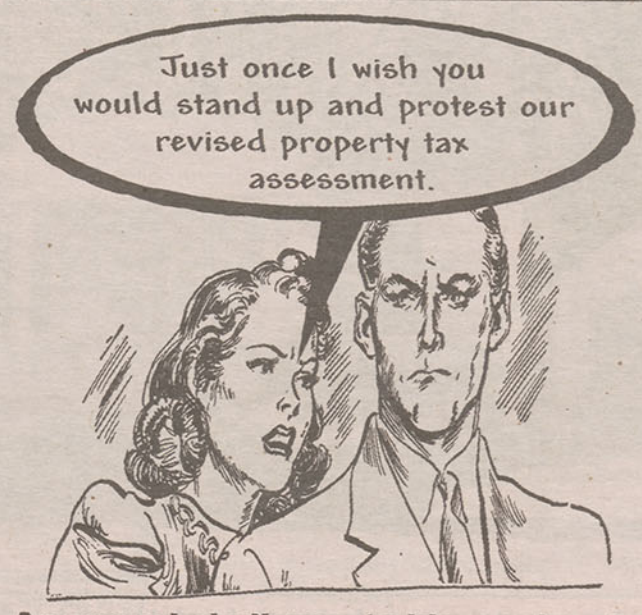
LIFE IN ANN ARBOR — Tim Athan



An annual challenge to his manhood.

Calls & Letters

Not a normal project

To the Observer:

There were many egregious errors in the article about HDC [Construction] and DDA [the Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority] in the February issue. There was also a sarcastic editorial tone.

HDC is not asking for "local public money" to fund the 100 replacement units. They are asking for Low Income Tax Credits, a state/federal program funded through the Michigan Housing Development Authority. At no time did HDC ask for $500,000 from the city's housing fund. The other proposal asked for $1.2 million each from the city and DDA as well as 100 Section 8 vouchers, thus making them unavailable to families.

The selection committee was appointed by the city, not the DDA. Two DDA members served on it, including myself.

The expression "sticker shock" is an editorial opinion and there is no basis for it in the article.

The redesign from ten–twelve stories to twelve–fourteen stories was identified in the original proposal, "additional stories might be proposed." This complies with existing zoning.

The proposal for the affordable units was $1 million from the DDA, not $2 million. That the DDA voted it down February 1 does not change this error for readers.

The ending paragraph in italics that says, "Normally, the DDA would see a big boost in tax revenue . . ." is irrelevant. This is not a "normal" project. It preserves 100 units of housing for those with extremely low incomes.

"No wonder that the DDA has been taking its time with the request. . . ." is a sarcastic editorial comment. The DDA board has always taken its time to reach prudent and fiscally responsible decisions which benefit the vitality and economic development of downtown Ann Arbor.

Leah Gunn, Chair
Downtown Development Authority

Gunn is correct that the selection committee was appointed by the city. She also notes that the city's $1 million budget to temporarily house former YMCA residents will cover a period of fifteen months, not twelve as we wrote.

On all other points, we stand by our article. HDC's January memo clearly spelled out its request for $500,000 in city housing funds and an additional $2 million from the DDA (later lowered to $1 million after some DDA board members balked). Add more than $1 million for temporary housing, and it's no wonder DDA and council members felt "sticker shock." In a January e-mail, Gunn's fellow selection committee member Fred Beal charged that the group was "essentially duped into supporting HDC's proposal."

As Gunn notes, the DDA board rejected the additional housing subsidy. It also declined to buy the project's proposed underground parking, and it reduced and stretched out requested infrastructure subsidies. City council also acted in February, amending its option agreement with HDC in an attempt to recover some of the unexpected relocation and housing expenses.

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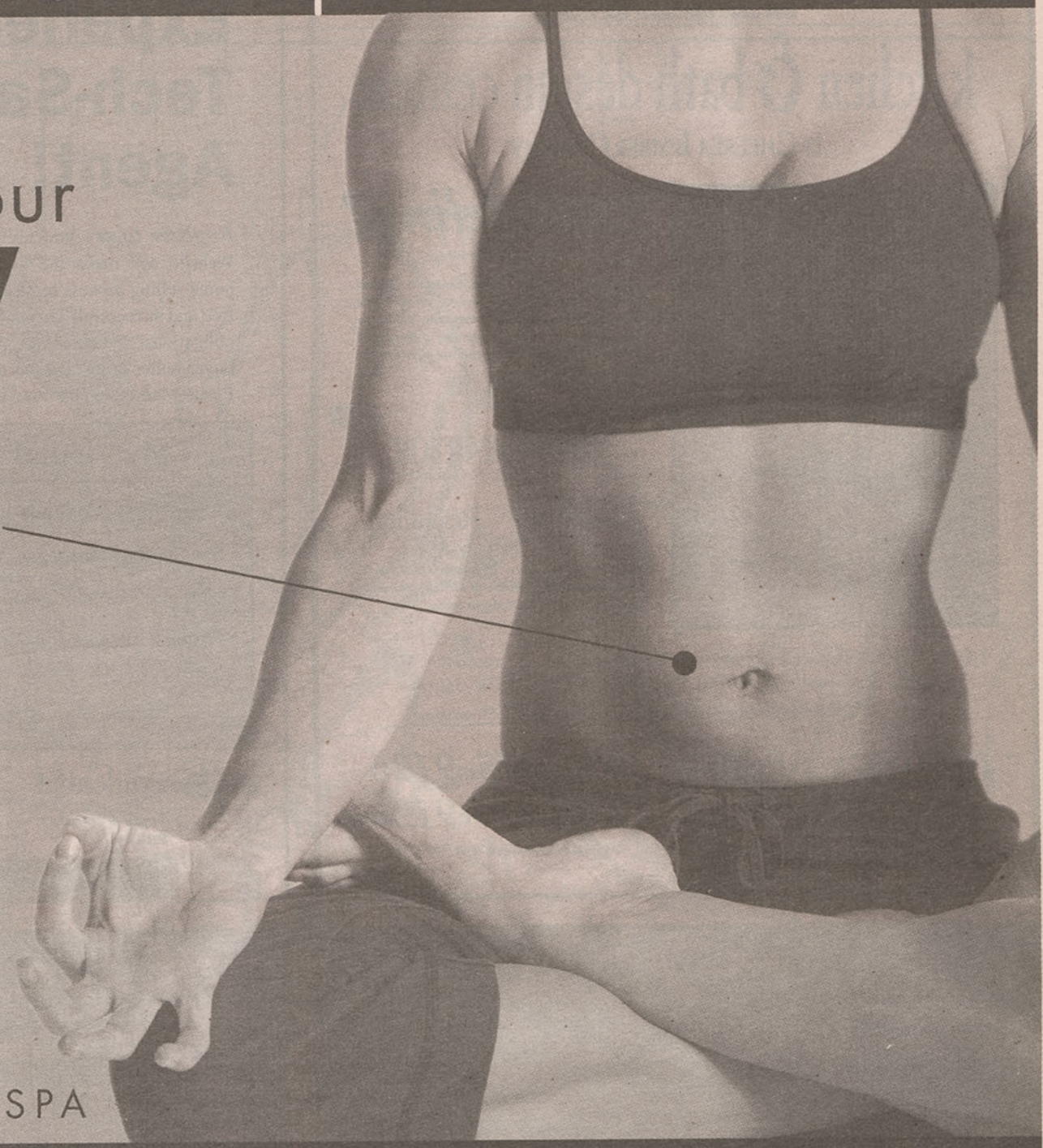

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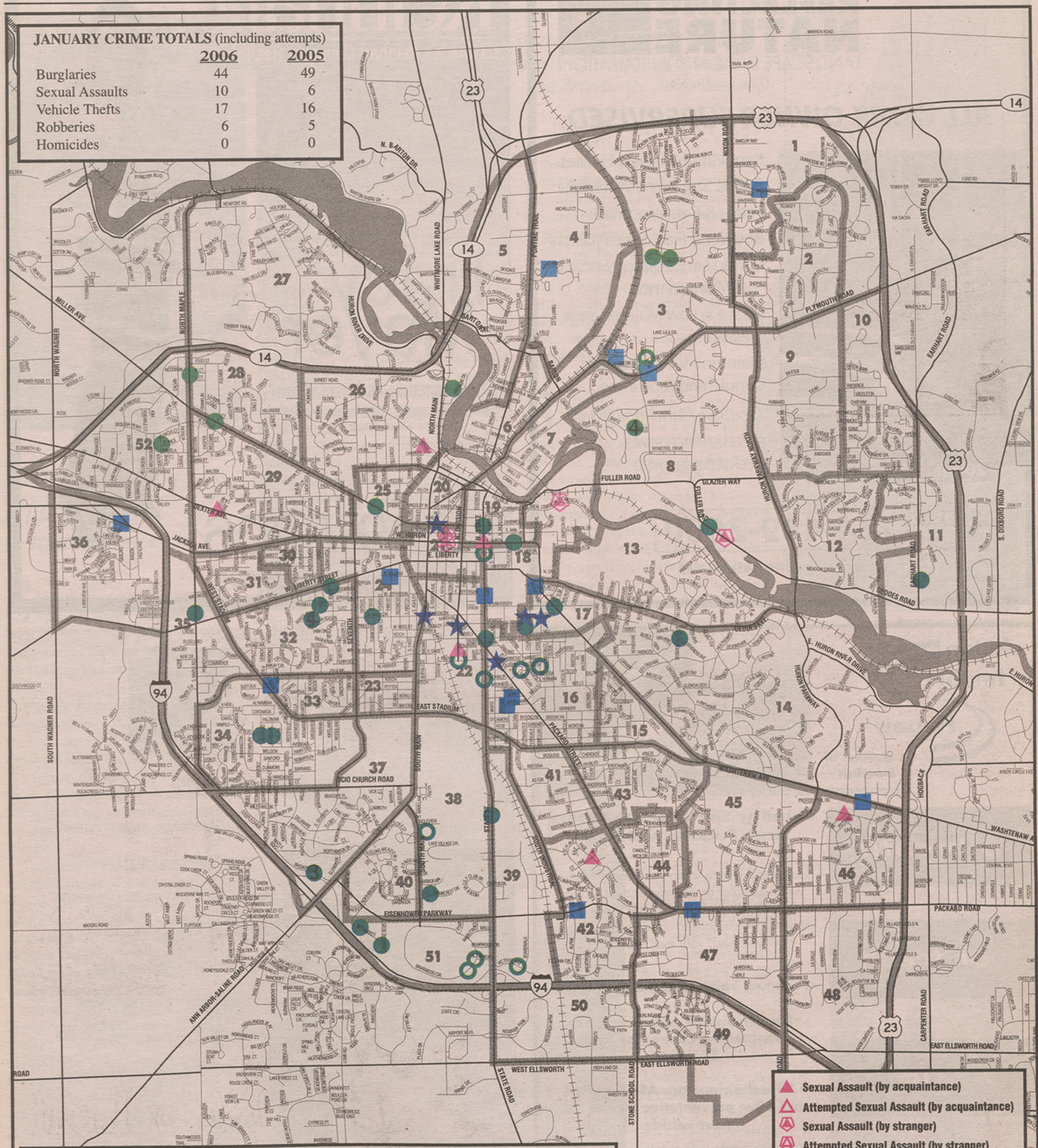

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Numbers on the map identify neighborhoods. If you have information about a crime, call **Neighborhood Watch at 994–8775** (Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.) or the **Anonymous 24 Hour Tip Line** at ***996–3199***. To report a crime on the U-M campus, call the university's **Department of Public Safety** at ***763–1131***, or call their **Anonymous Tip Line** at ***(800) 863–1355***.

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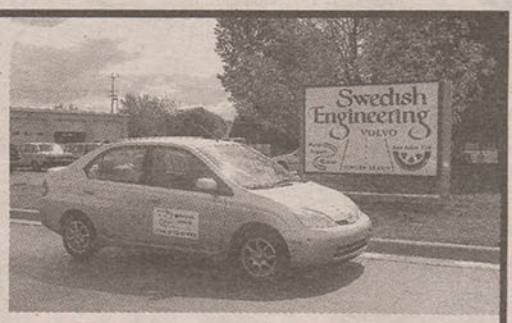

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Dey describes Srishti as "a mainstream company" with high artistic standards. "We have seasons—I want people to see us like a ballet performance or a modern dance performance, with advance ticket sales."

Sreyashi Dey

A life devoted to Indian dance

Sreyashi Dey doesn't remember a time when she wasn't interested in dance. Born in 1967 in New Delhi, she was just four years old when she told her mother, "I want to learn to dance. Take me to a dance school."

She has since earned a master's in economics and an M.B.A., moved to America, and had daughters of her own. But Dey's passionate focus is still dance: she is principal dancer, choreographer, costumer, grant writer, website designer, marketing specialist, and business manager of her own dance company, Srishti Dances of India.

Dey came to the United States in 1987 to attend grad school at Purdue. In 1990 she married Uday Rajan, whom she'd known in college in India and met again in America. After living in New York and northern California, the couple moved to Pittsburgh in 1995 when Rajan joined the faculty at Carnegie Mellon.

She admits she's driven, explaining that her "passion for Indian dance is part of my heritage—part of my personal philosophy of life." She was working full time as a management consultant in Pittsburgh when she founded Srishti. It is more common in India than in America for a committed artist to have a professional day job, she says, and she doesn't see a "divide between the two lines of work." Dey would still do consulting, she says, if there were more hours in the day. Since there aren't, she now uses her business skills as an arts administrator.

Dey, Rajan, and their twelve-year-old twins, Ishika and Kritika, moved to Ann Arbor last year when Rajan took a job at the U-M business school. Her family has adjusted easily to Ann Arbor, Dey says, because "there are many things for them to do and people are very open." Leaving her own friends and her day-to-day life in Pittsburgh was emotionally hard, she admits, but she takes "a longer-term perspective." For Srishti, Ann Arbor offers new opportunities to expand.

The troupe is still based in Pittsburgh, where Dey sank deep roots into the arts community, establishing an enthusiastic and diverse audience for her company. She hopes to have a similar impact here. Srishti Dances will perform at Washtenaw Community College on March 30 (see Events). Because the company emphasizes outreach and education, it also will perform at Burns Park Elementary School and Tappan Middle School this month.

When she performs at a school, Dey tells the students before the show about the history of the culture and the dance form. "It is so stylized and exotic," she says, "that it doesn't seem connected to current times—it is so ancient and different." Srishti Dances specializes in a classical style called Odissi, which traces its origins to the dances performed in the temples of eastern and southern India; its distinguishing characteristics are flowing sculptural movements and subtle artistic expression.

Since arriving in Ann Arbor, Dey has applied for local grants to fund a dance drama called *Chitrangada*. She plans to bring in young dancers from Ann Arbor's Indian American community and visiting artists from India for the production, which she hopes to stage at Washtenaw Community College this fall.

Srishti doesn't perform at ethnic festivals. And it doesn't try to attract a mostly Indian audience. Dey describes Srishti as "a mainstream company" with high artistic standards. "We have seasons—I want people to see us like a ballet performance or a modern dance performance, with advance ticket sales." Many immigrants from India "don't seem interested in a good professional dance company bringing mainstream Indian arts," Dey says. "Instead they think, 'Why buy tickets? We can watch our kids doing it in the backyard.'" She says she fought for more respect among Pittsburgh's Indian community, with some success.

To keep Srishti Dances on the cutting edge, she constantly works with artists from India. Of the troupe's eight current dancers, four live in India. The Indian members regularly travel to the United States, and since 2002 Dey has toured India for several months every year, performing both solo and in collaboration with others.

For her last trip, which ended in late January, Dey got permission from Tappan Middle School to take her daughters with her. Ishika and Kritika brought schoolwork along; Dey also hired a tutor. Her own daughters have been dancing since they were toddlers—and they are now beginning to perform with their mother.

—Penny Schreiber

PHOTOS GRIFFIN LINDSAY

"He taught me housekeeping; when I divorce I keep the house"

—Zsa Zsa Gabor

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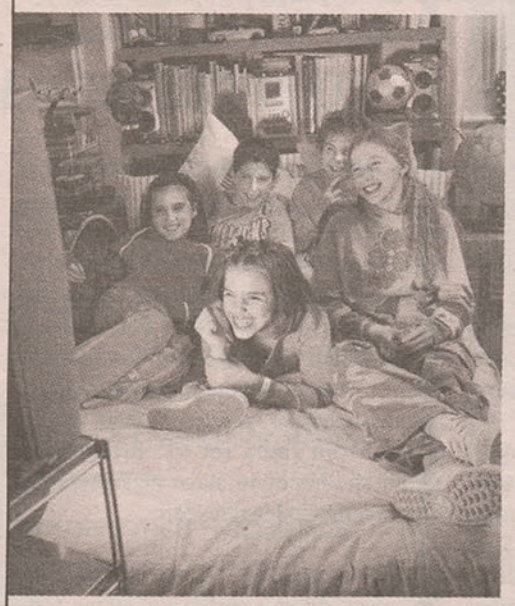

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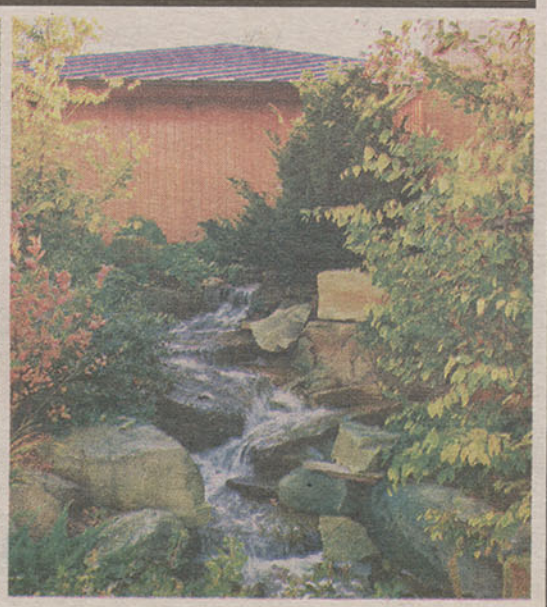


James Jackson

From Inkster to ISR

James Jackson walks into the conference room at the U-M Institute for Social Research, ten minutes late for a 9 a.m. meeting. He's already been to another gathering, after rising around 5 a.m. to work on a scientific paper.

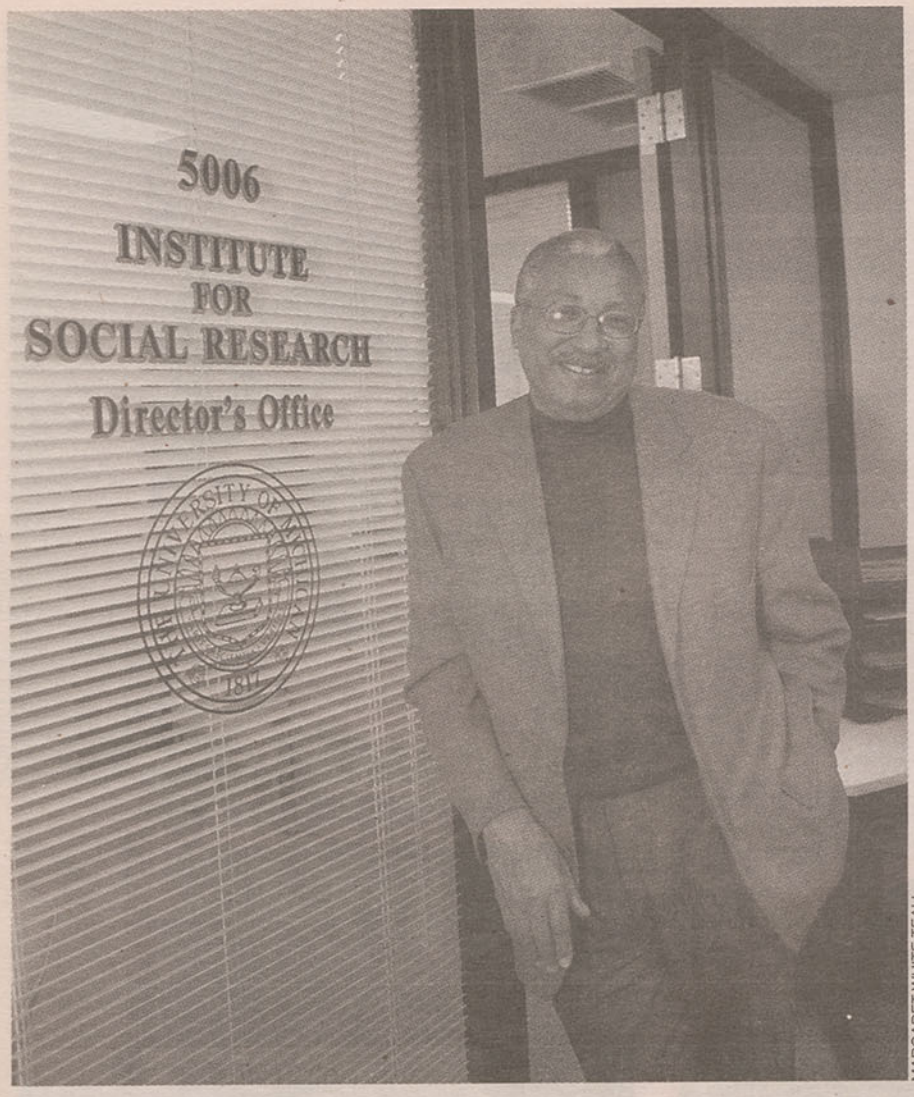
It's his first session with ISR's administrative staff since he took over as director of the huge and growing research and surveying organization. Jackson, sixty-one, is dressed conservatively in a dark gray suit and purplish-gray tie, but his appearance warms as he introduces himself and talks enthusiastically about his hopes and plans for the institute. He jokes that he switched from biological to social psychology after being bitten by a lab rat—college sophomores, he says, are less likely to use their teeth while participating in social science research projects. Then he assures the thirty assembled staffers that despite some planned reorganization, *they* will not be bitten by layoffs. "When you get up in the morning," he tells them, "I really want you to come to work here."

Jackson clearly looks forward to leading ISR, a hive of nearly 850 pollsters, social scientists, researchers, administrators, and others. The institute is best known for producing the monthly U-M Consumer Confidence Index, whose findings are closely followed as a key economic indicator, but its research covers an array of subjects, from aging and retirement, elections, and child care policies to drug use and ethnic identity of Latino youth—with some of the investigations led by Jackson himself.

This year Jackson will guide ISR into an important new area of study: Americans' evolving values, from their work ethic to their feelings about major institutions. He hopes eventually to create a Values Index that will track changes to Americans' core principles. He also wants to work with major businesses to help them see new models for success and competitiveness. He says, "I would love for Bill Ford to call me this afternoon"—and ask ISR scientists to help Ford Motor Company.

Jackson grew up in Inkster, the son of a boiler maintenance worker and a practical nurse. A first-generation college graduate, he earned his Ph.D. from Wayne State in 1972. Over the years he's been a juvenile officer, social science researcher in Paris, professor, and head of several departments and organizations within the university. His own research is built around several themes: family dynamics, aging and race issues, immigration, and mental health. In 1980 he directed the National Survey of Black Americans, said to be the first survey of a nationally representative sample of African Americans.

Jackson himself moves comfortably between worlds. He likes to talk about sports



MARGARET WHITE TEALL

Jackson also wants to work with major businesses to help them see new models for success and competitiveness. He says, "I would love for Bill Ford to call me this afternoon"—and ask ISR scientists to help Ford Motor Company.

as much as he likes to discuss research projects, and his speech shifts easily between opaquely academic and vividly informal. Coming of age in the 1960s, he met Martin Luther King Jr., Jesse Jackson, and Malcolm X, among other civil rights leaders—yet when asked in an interview about discrimination in his own life, he lapses into third-person professorspeak ("It's the quintessential experience of people who tend to be different to experience bigotry or discrimination"). Then, discussing ethical issues, he riffs that "drug dealers in Detroit are on the same par as CEOs of some companies."

In CEO style, Jackson keeps his eye on many things, including this month's move of ISR's research and polling operations from rented space near Briarwood to the newly renovated Perry Building on Packard. His ability to juggle many projects simultaneously wows colleagues. "He's got this incredible energy, and a lot of us get e-mail at some ungodly early hour of the morning. Sometimes I wonder—does he sleep?" says U-M public health prof Harold Neighbors.

Jackson admits he doesn't need much sleep. He acknowledges that he is demanding and that sometimes his staff can't keep up with him. Still, his colleagues laud his outgoing and upbeat personality, his openness, and his willingness to learn from others. "He's always willing to ask questions and listen. And he's always appreciative of what we do," said Carolyn Batts, an accounting supervisor who's known him for nearly thirty years.

Jackson expects to go fast, and he's eager for the ISR staff to be running right alongside him. But he knows the hazards of getting too far ahead of his team: he recalls the scene from the film *Animal House* where John Belushi, after telling the guys sitting around, "We have to go," jumps up and runs out, but nobody follows him. "To get people to coalesce around various things, you have to lead by example," he says. "You have to be patient."

He says his family helps him stay grounded. He and his wife, Toni Antonucci, lived for twenty years in Ypsilanti so they could be close to his grandmother—she cared for their two daughters when they were babies, and in her later years the couple cared for her. Now Jackson and Antonucci, a psychology professor and ISR senior research scientist, are empty nesters in Ann Arbor. They met in graduate school and are coauthors of several articles; he lauds her for helping him keep things in perspective. "I'm not perfect," he assures the assembled staffers. "My wife reminds me of that at least once a week."

—Vickie Elmer

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ILLUSTRATION SALLY WRIGHT DAY

The Lion Dance

Lettuce blessings at Eastern Accents

It was raining as I hurried my eight-year-old son into his *gi* so we could slog over to Fourth Avenue for his karate class. Only the prospect of going two doors down to the bakery during Liam's session kept me patient on this especially dreary Saturday.

I love Eastern Accents. You can sit cozily in its bright confines, sip rich coffee, and eat *bibim bob* or some exotic Asian pastry. The servers are so sweet and friendly that all sorts of folks—students with laptops, families with toddlers, friends and lovers, and we singles—feel comfortable.

This unassuming little storefront is a microcosm of the city. You can't help listening to the polyglot of languages from all over—the speakers' chairs are inches from yours. Along with Asian languages, I've eavesdropped on French, German, something Slavic, and even Swedish, I think. And those are just the ones I can identify.

I'd just settled in with my bibim bob and latte (extra shot, no foam, dash of nutmeg) when in walked a muscular man, his graying hair in a brush cut. He agitatedly plunked himself down at the table a foot away. In a few minutes, he had pulled over a friend to sit with him.

"Yeah, they're going to cancel it. The lion's head would just dissolve—it's papier-mâché," he said loudly. "It's just raining too hard." He stared morosely out the window.

My ears perked up. The Lion Dance! It must be Chinese New Year! My friend Wendy Moy would bop me on the head for forgetting again.

For years I've wanted to see the Lion Dance. Hundreds gather downtown to watch the spectacle of the men in the lion's head and under the trailing yellow-silk body dancing down the streets. Drummers, stick bangers, bell ringers, and cymbal clangers walk beside them, making a happy, unwinterish noise. Yet I keep forgetting—even though the troupe is from the kung fu class at Liam's school, the Asian Martial Arts Studio.

Ach, and here I was, accidentally in the right place at the right time, only to be foiled by the weather.

As the man described how the rain would also ruin the drums, I couldn't help it—I piped up.

"Any chance they'll reschedule it?"

"Maybe," the man said, happy to talk about it even to interrupting strangers. "They may go to all the restaurants to bless them. Maybe even here."

Ach again! I downed my latte and ran to pick up Liam. We hurried back, ordered his usual rice bowl, and waited.

Sure enough, a few minutes later I could see the bright yellow lion costume and the percussionists out in the building lobby. Drums started thumping, and the lion's head appeared, its mouth and eyelids flapping with the beat. Led by a tiny, round figure masked as a Buddhist monk, the lion danced into the kitchen, behind the counter, and then right on top of it.

All of a sudden, green lettuce leaves flew out of its mouth, landing on some of the customers near the back. This is the blessing of the lion. "Eating and dispersing of the greens symbolizes the distribution of wealth and good fortune," I learned later on the school's website (a2amas.com/liondance).

I found the head fascinating and a bit scary, but my son's face was lit up and smiling. The lion jumped from the counter and zigged and zagged to the front of the restaurant, where it knocked off a bunch of lettuce hanging from the lights. Then those of us in the front were "blessed." Customers clapped, and some grabbed cell phones to take photos and videos.

I looked again at my son, dressed in his gi with his Irish name written across it, chopsticks in his hand, looking as blond and blue-eyed as any Swede, in this Asian bakery surrounded by people of many ethnicities, all cheering on this Chinese tradition. I took my own memory photo and thought, "Is this a great city, or what?"

—Sally Wright Day

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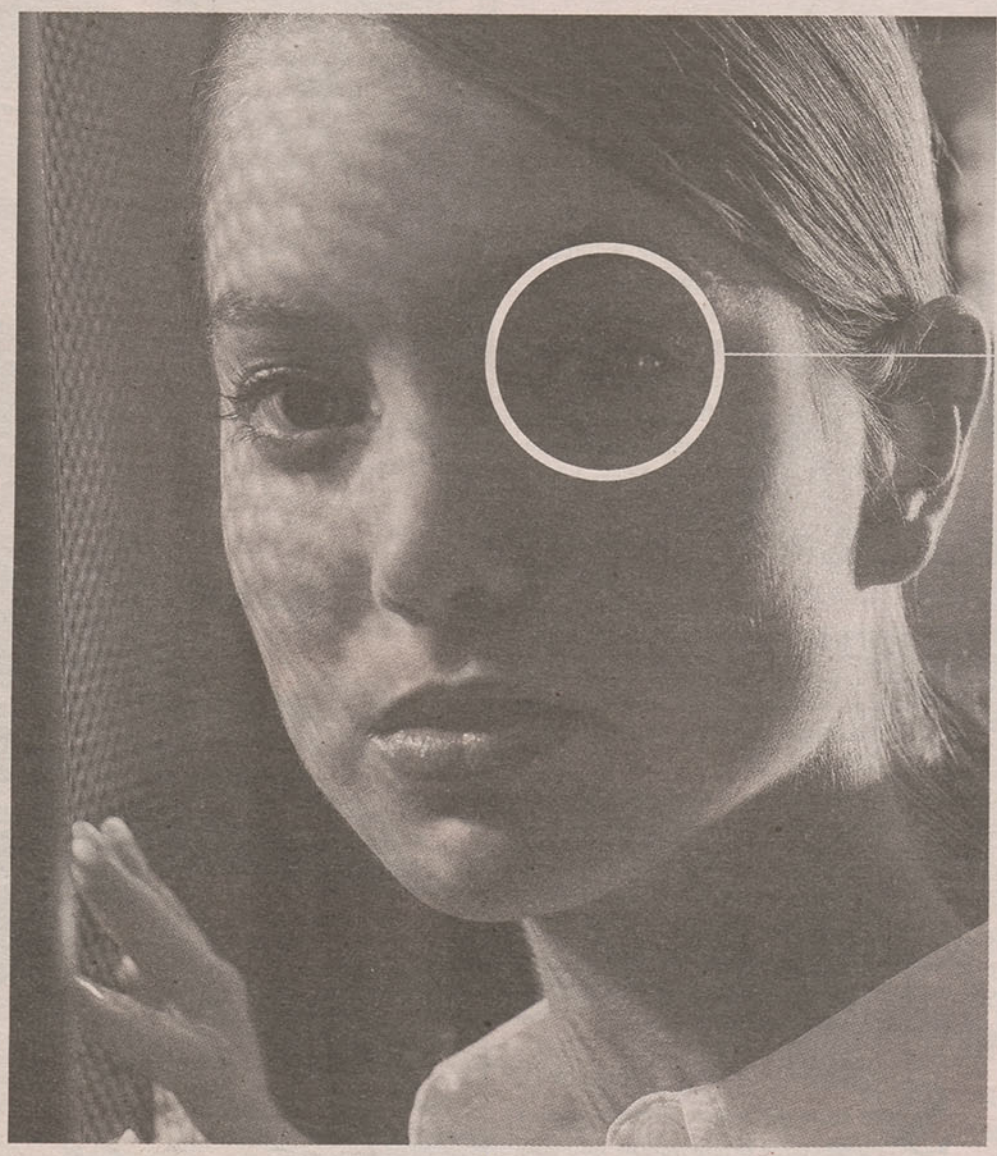

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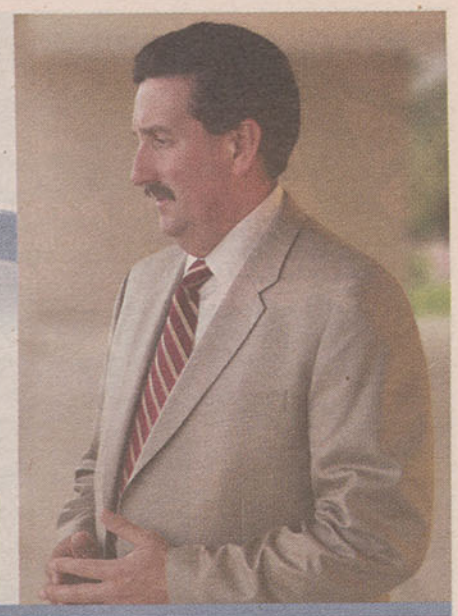
Who will pay for law enforcement in the county?

Showdown



by James Leonard

This is a story about money, crime, and power.

The county administrator wants to build a new jail—and when Bob Guenzel identifies a priority, he almost always finds a way to achieve it. But he's been stymied for nearly a decade, as voters turned down plan after plan to pay for it.

Now Guenzel and the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners are locked in a high-stakes game of poker with township officials. The townships have refused to back down because they think they have an ace in the hole—county sheriff Dan Minzey.

It all came to a head on January 4. After months of tense negotiations, the commissioners authorized Guenzel to cut police services to three townships if their officials didn't sign a new contract within two weeks. Ypsilanti Township attorney Doug Winters replied, "We'll see you in court!"

How did it come to this? The immediate issue was the soaring cost of police protection. Like most other Washtenaw County municipalities, Ypsilanti Township pays the county sheriff to provide local police services—at a cost, last year, of nearly $83,000 per deputy. Now Guenzel and the commissioners wanted a new four-year contract that would raise that amount to more than $100,000 by 2007. Prices in the last two years were still being negotiated, but the county was blunt about wanting to recoup its full cost—which it put at $180,000.

Guenzel wanted the money to expand the Washtenaw County Jail. Built to house 215 prisoners thirty-one years ago, the jail currently holds 360 inmates, and hundreds more are released early every year because there's no room. Yet three times since 1997, voters have turned down taxes to expand it.

The county jail is mandated by state law; county police services aren't. So last summer, the commissioners voted to take the money they're using to underwrite local law enforcement and use it to expand the jail instead.

The move infuriated voters and officials in the twenty-two villages and townships patrolled by sheriff's deputies. None has more at stake than Ypsilanti Township. Its forty-seven deputies constitute the county's second-largest police force—and if the county is correct, the township is paying less than half the cost.

A lawsuit looks cheap in comparison.

County administrator Bob Guenzel (left) and sheriff Dan Minzey (right) are at odds about how to pay for expanding the jail. (Center) New fees for police services prompted rural Sylvan Township to switch to state police patrols. That's not an option in Ypsilanti Township: Craig Harvey (above) is one of forty-seven deputies who police the county's second-largest municipality.

"The sheriff is elected, but we pay the bill"

By double-bunking and filling in courtyards once used for exercise, the county has increased the capacity of the jail on Hogback Road to 332 inmates. Even so, it's been overcrowded for at least a decade. In the last three years alone, 870 inmates have been released early to make room for more violent criminals.

Commander Kirk Filsinger keeps the worst offenders—the prisoners he describes as "hardcore shitheads"—in a separate cell block. Overcrowding has forced him to put the rest anywhere he can. He's got twenty-five low-security inmates in the gym, another eight in what used to be the exercise space in J block, and five of the forty-five female prisoners bunked out in what was once a dining area in G block. And every month, another forty or fifty of Washtenaw County's least dangerous inmates are farmed out to jails in other counties.

Sheriff Dan Minzey, Filsinger's boss, says that expanding the jail is "absolutely necessary." The only question, he says, is "Where's the money going to come from?"

If the voters have anything to say about it, it won't come from additional taxes: three successive jail millages have been shot down in flames.

After the second defeat, in 2000, the county commissioners decided to look elsewhere in the budget for the money. They found it in the sheriff's department.

The commissioners approved two changes in the funding of police services. For the townships and villages that relied on the sheriff, the changes were enormous—and potentially catastrophic.

The first change was to eliminate free road patrols in nine rural townships, most of them in the western part of the county. Starting in 2001, the county announced, deputies would patrol there only if the townships covered the cost. The price per deputy would be the same as the rate charged to the communities that were already contracting for expanded police services.

The county's second change added insult to injury: the price of a deputy was about to shoot up. The county had done a cost study, and instead of $70,000 a year, it now wanted $109,000.

Municipalities that balked at paying the county's price had three other options: start their own police forces, go elsewhere for police services, or rely on the state police. As Scio Township found out, going elsewhere for police services cost even more than the county wanted—the Ann Arbor Police Department told Scio its price per officer per year was $210,000.

Three western townships—Lima, Lyndon, and Sylvan—decided they'd rather take their chances with the state police than pay the county's price. Asked four years later how he likes relying on the state for police protection for the 3,200 people of Lima Township, supervisor Ken Unterbrink replies, "I feel wonderful. I would recommend it to everyone, but I'm sure there's not enough to go around." Unterbrink's right about that. There are cur-

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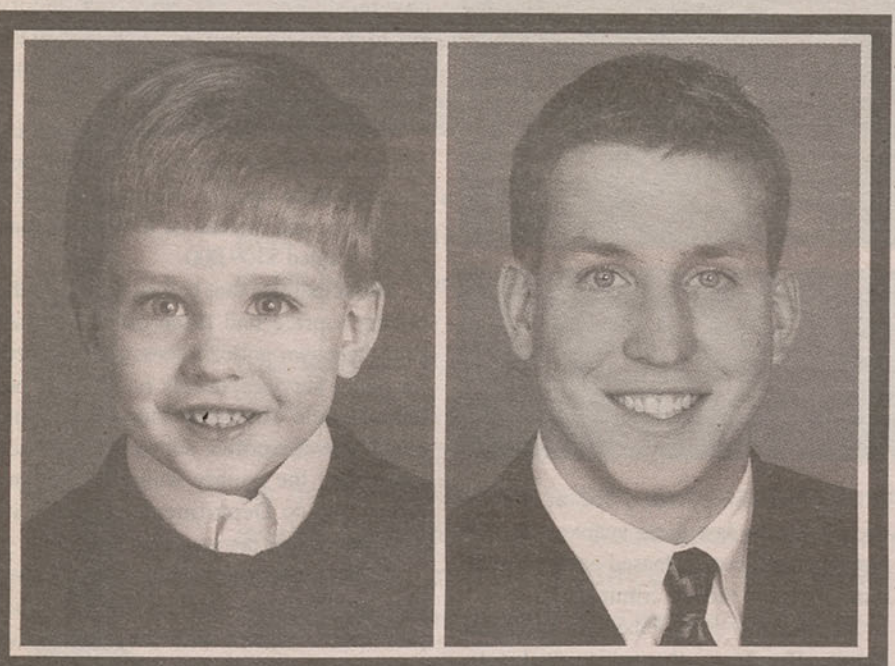

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Showdown *continued*

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Scio Township trustee Chuck Ream didn't believe county officials when they told him they don't jail marijuana users—so he's twice blocked plans to finance a bigger jail.

rently just twenty-one state police officers in the entire county—compared to ninety contracted sheriff's deputies.

To prevent more defections, the county finally agreed to keep the price at $70,000. Fourteen townships and villages signed two-year contracts—seven of them for the first time. "The citizens were furious," recalls Manchester Village supervisor Jeff Wallace. "They figured they already paid their taxes to the county for the sheriff, and they didn't see why they had to pay them twice."

The 2000 election also saw Dan Minzey beat his former boss, Ron Schebil, for sheriff. As soon as he took office, Minzey says, he faced a crisis—he would soon have to replace ninety of his 300 deputies. Afraid it would be forced to lay off deputies if townships didn't contract for their services, the county had induced them to retire over an eighteen-month period. To replace them, Minzey had to bring in recruits, each of whom required five to six months of field training.

In the meantime, Minzey says, he filled shifts with his only available resource—the department's remaining deputies. By 2003, annual overtime pay for police services nearly doubled, to $1.6 million.

The county told Minzey to cut that figure to $1.4 million in 2004. Instead, he spent $1.8 million. "The sheriff is elected, but we pay the bill," Guenzel complains. "He's not responsible, not accountable, not to the commissioners or to me, but directly to the citizens who elect him."

As overtime costs soared, the county again recalculated the cost of police services. Instead of looking at just the direct costs of a deputy, the new analysis factored in overhead and support services like the detective bureau and the K-9 team. It came up with a cost of $180,000 per deputy per year—and that didn't count overtime.

Rather than risk mass defection, the county didn't try to impose the higher rate immediately. The two-year police-service contracts it offered in 2003 stipulated annual increases of 6 percent, with the county continuing to pay the rest. The townships questioned the numbers and didn't like the increases—but, once again, they signed because the alternatives seemed worse.

"They kicked our ass"

Two years ago, the state cut revenue-sharing payments. Washtenaw County lost $8 million—nearly 10 percent of its budget—and eliminated 132 jobs. Yet the sheriff's spending continued to grow, to $31.4 million—more than a third of the county's entire budget. Once again, the surplus the county hoped to generate for the jail failed to materialize.

Having already cut the rest of the budget, Guenzel says he and the commissioners saw only one solution: another jail millage. The proposed tax would raise $200 million to expand the jail and pay its operating costs—but it also included $84 million for support services and alternatives to keep people *out* of jail.

That commitment helped win endorsements from groups like the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County. But little was done to sell the tax directly to voters. Most conspicuously, county leaders didn't enlist the townships' aid. "We would have helped sell the millage," says Dexter Township supervisor Pat Kelly, "but we weren't asked for input until it was too late." Even Sheriff Minzey, whose jail it was, did little to promote the millage.

Minzey now says that he warned county officials it wouldn't pass: "I told them, 'Don't go to the public—they'll never approve it.'"

They didn't. With a 10 percent turnout, voters defeated the millage by an overwhelming 63 percent. In twenty-three rural municipalities, the no vote averaged 75 percent. Even Ypsilanti Township, which had the most to lose if the millage failed, rejected it by 58 percent. "'Defeated'?" Guenzel says. "They kicked our ass.

"We didn't do a good enough job of convincing the voters, obviously," Guenzel admits. "But it was the 'No Giant Jail' campaign from Chuck Ream that really did us in."

Ream had led the 2004 drive to legalize "medical marijuana" in Ann Arbor. Before the jail vote, Guenzel says, "Chuck came to me to negotiate supporting the millage if I could guarantee him that we wouldn't arrest people for marijuana.

"I told him I couldn't guarantee that—I don't make the laws. This didn't satisfy him, and he saw it as a wedge. 'No Giant Jail' were code words for 'no marijuana arrests.'"

Sheriff Minzey—a former narcotics agent—had a similar experience. "Chuck showed up at a public forum and asked me if anyone in the jail was there for using marijuana," Minzey recalls. "I don't really have room for people who are arrested for that kind of misdemeanor."

Ream says that he toured the jail before the millage campaign started but that Filsinger wouldn't let him ask prisoners the questions he wanted to. Filsinger remembers things rather differently. "He looked around a little bit," Filsinger says, "but he didn't really ask to see much. He just wanted to talk about legalizing marijuana."

So how many of Filsinger's prisoners are there for smoking pot? "None," he says. "I can't remember the last time we had one."

Ream remains unconvinced. "They say, 'Well, we don't have anybody,'" he says. "But I don't believe them."

Few shared Ream's obsession with persecuted potheads—but many agreed the county's plan was excessive. "It was just too big a bite," says Freedom Township supervisor Bob Little. "We in the townships don't think we need a Taj Mahal in a jail."

Little and others saw the jail issue as essentially an urban problem. "It's common knowledge that there are very few people in jail from outcounty and rural areas," says Lima Township's Unterbrink.

According to Filsinger, on a typical day the jail's population is divided roughly in quarters among the city of Ann Arbor, the city of Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, and the rest of the county. The three urban areas account for about 55 percent of the county's population, so they do produce more prisoners per capita—but that doesn't mean that the rest of the county is crime free. On that typical day, Filsinger says, the jail houses about eighty inmates from outcounty.

"It's a question of who's going to pay"

Stymied once again by the voters, Guenzel went back to the board in April with the idea of selling $30 million in bonds to pay for a smaller addition to the jail. To repay the bonds, Guenzel recalls, "I told them we have three alternatives: one, another millage; two, cut mandated services and health and human services; or, three, cut subsidies for the road patrol. After four months of mulling it over, the board of commissioners specifically recommended cutting the subsidies in August."

"Another millage would never have passed," explains Jeff Irwin, Ann Arbor Democrat and chair of the ways and means committee. "We can't touch mandated services, and nobody wanted to touch health and human services, so that left the sheriff's department. It was the right thing to do."

Mark Ouimet, one of the board's three Republicans, was one of four commissioners who voted against cutting the subsidies. He says that the board picked the sheriff's department because it was "the path of least resistance" and that the road patrol "is the last place we should be cutting." But when asked what services he

If Ypsilanti Township had to pay full price for its police services, its costs would jump by $3.9 million a year—or $200 for every household in the township.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

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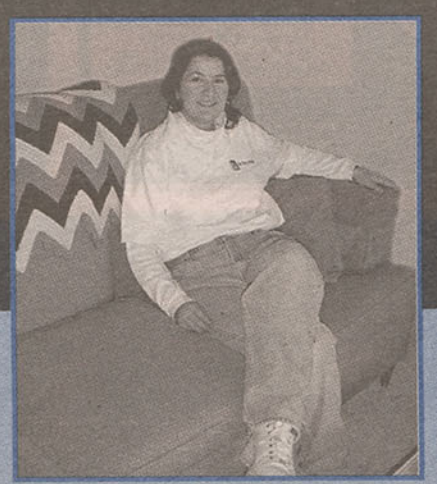

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Showdown *continued*

thought should be cut first, Ouimet won't specify any programs.

The county set up a steering committee to negotiate the new police-service rates. The committee's troubles started even before the first meeting, when Ypsilanti Township demanded more representatives. As a compromise, the committee agreed that both supervisor Ruth Ann Jamnick and clerk Brenda Stumbo could attend.

Stumbo wanted to keep an eye on Jamnick, a political rival she thought was too willing to compromise. "She's sending mixed messages to the county," Stumbo complains, "and there's no room for that on this issue." But according to another committee member, Stumbo ended up coming to only one meeting.

Jamnick also missed the first month's worth of meetings—but then she and the township's police liaison officer showed up loaded for bear. They began by questioning the county's price of $180,000 per deputy plus overtime.

"Ypsilanti [Township] didn't trust us and they didn't believe us," Guenzel recalls. "They even asked to bring their auditors in, and we let them. But what they found out is that it's very expensive to put a deputy on road patrol—for every dollar it takes to put a deputy on the road, it takes another behind in support."

In addition to the costs, Ypsilanti and other townships questioned the timing. "The townships continued to express their concerns that these costs were going up too quickly," says Irwin. "So we said we'd agree to stretch them out if they'd agree to sign a four-year contract."

But then the extension itself became a sticking point. Though Irwin describes the longer term as a concession to the townships, Jamnick says that "it has never become clear why it had to be four years instead of two." Asked whether he thought the townships understood why they were presented with a four-year contract, Irwin responds bluntly: "They understood, all right—but a few communities decided they wanted to use the vague terms in the contract to bring this to a crisis."

Because the townships were reluctant to sign a contract before the costs for the last two years were set, the county added a clause that allowed them to opt out on six months' notice. But Ypsilanti Township viewed that concession skeptically, too. "They wanted us to sign the four-year contract because they knew those costs would be so high that we'd all opt out of police services," claims township treasurer Larry Doe. "That way, the county could get out of the police business."

"Bob Guenzel wants to get out of the police business," Stumbo concurs. "Every step is being taken to do just that."

"I categorically deny that," Guenzel replies. "It's not a question of public safety. It's a question of who's going to pay."

For Irwin, the problem is not with the county but with Ypsilanti Township: "The bottom line is they don't want to pay the higher price. They know they're getting a good deal."

In fact, they are. Ypsilanti Township paid $4.5 million for road patrol in 2005, up from $3.3 million in 2003. But policing still accounts for only 15 percent of the township budget—Pittsfield, which has its own police force, spends 25 percent. If Ypsilanti Township ever has to pay the county's full $180,000 cost per deputy, its costs will jump by $3.9 million a year—or $200 for every household in the township.

And Ypsilanti Township needs police. "It is the most urban township we patrol, and we go there because that's where the most crime is," says Minzey. "There's more banks, more convenience stores, more neighbor troubles, and, of course, more domestic abuse situations there."

Minzey's nonsupport helped sink the last jail millage, and his deputies just helped sink the most recent plan. Now he says the county has to persuade the townships to support a new millage.

The numbers bear Minzey out: Ypsilanti Township has 15 percent of the county's population but 27 percent of the jail's population. To make his message clear, Minzey says that without his deputies, the township's 50,000 residents would find themselves in "a state of lawless anarchy."

"Save Our Sheriff"

When the commissioners voted to issue bonds to pay for the jail expansion, they didn't reckon on Chuck Ream. State law provides no way for the public to overturn decisions by the board of commissioners—but it does give voters the right to prevent the county from borrowing money. In early September, Ream called a press conference at Scio Township's municipal building to announce a peition drive to force a public vote on the bonds.

Among those in attendance was retired Manchester Village resident Ken Rogge. Like Freedom's Bob Little, Rogge had opposed the "Taj Mahal" jail plan. Even the scaled-back version the bonds would fund, he says, "was still too much." Like Unterbrink, Rogge also mistakenly believes that almost everyone in the county jail population comes from urban areas "and we shouldn't have to pay for their prisoners."

After the press conference, Ream asked Rogge to collect signatures in Manchester and Brenda Stumbo to, in her words, "coordinate the eastern part of the county." According to Stumbo, "Every board member circulated the petition. We decided the only way to stop the bond was to get behind Chuck."

Officials from Augusta and Salem townships also circulated the petition. So did sheriff's deputies—union president Harry Valentine publicly pledged 220 members to help with the effort. Minzey says that since state law forbids government employees from engaging in political activity on the job, "I made it very clear that it was not to be done on work time."

The "Save Our Sheriff" campaign gathered 21,140 signatures in just 21 days. By far the biggest single group, 4,755 signatures, came from Ypsilanti Township. But all those signatures still needed to be verified—a process that would take months.

Meanwhile, the county set a deadline of December 1 to sign the new four-year contracts. Ten townships did. "We signed the four-year agreement even though we didn't know the [pricing] outcome for the last two years," says Bill McFarlane, Superior Township's supervisor. "We were sure we could resolve the issues in an equitable way."

Dexter Township supervisor Pat Kelly says she also recommended her board accept: with the opt-out clause, she explains, "what I was asking them to sign was in effect only a six-month contract." Manchester Village manager Jeff Wallace says that though citizens were still furious with the county over the road patrol, "we signed because we had the six month opt-out—and because we didn't want to increase our cost by paying attorney fees."

But Ypsilanti, Augusta, and Salem townships resolutely refused to sign. When the county extended the deadline to December 31, the three townships sent their contracts back signed—but with all clauses pertaining to the four-year duration crossed out. "Doug Winters said that nobody in their right mind would sign such a contract," Larry Doe recalls.

The county declined to accept the modified contracts—Guenzel says that "it wouldn't be fair to the townships that did sign"—but again extended the deadline, this time to January 4. "I'm not interested in provoking a crisis," he says. "I just wish we had a contract."

Guenzel didn't get his wish. Although Minzey didn't attend any of the steering committee's meetings, he did appear at Ypsilanti Township's board meeting on December 20. There supervisor Jamnick asked him point blank what he would do if the county ordered him to stop patrolling their township. According to clerk Stumbo's minutes, "Sheriff Dan Minzey stated he planned on providing public safety for everyone, but it had become a battle and there were risks involved. Sheriff Minzey explained that he would fight for his people and the township, but he didn't want them to make a decision based on that, because he could lose."

Yet that's just what Ypsilanti Township did. Asked what the township's backup plan was if the county pulled its deputies, Stumbo replies, "Dan Minzey is our backup plan. He assured us that he would continue to provide services no matter what the county said or did."

On January 4 the county commissioners gave the township two more weeks to sign—and authorized Guenzel to cut services if it didn't. But township leaders didn't think the sheriff would let that happen.

They were mistaken. In fact, Guenzel and Minzey had already decided on a contingency plan if Ypsilanti Township didn't sign: they wouldn't leave the township without law enforcement, but they would slash staffing levels.

If that happened, Minzey warns, "response times may be huge. If there's a shooting, yes, of course. But if it's a domestic disturbance, it may be much, much longer, if at all."

Thwarted again

As good as his word, Doug Winters, now representing Augusta and Salem townships as well as Ypsilanti Township, filed suit in mid-January. On January 18, Monroe County circuit judge Joseph Costello Jr. ordered the county to continue to provide police services to all three townships until March 15.

By forestalling the county's threat to cut services, Costello's decision effectively gave the county another seven weeks to work things out with the three remaining townships. In February the steering committee presented several options for service in the final years of the contract, and Guenzel says he is "confident that a compromise will be reached before mid-March." But Winters says the townships he represents will not accept anything more than a two-year contract—pushing off the day of reckoning for two more years.

The same day Costello acted, the county clerk's office at last completed its review of the Save Our Sheriff petitions—and dramatically changed the situation. The clerk found 17,000 valid signatures—2,000 more than were needed to put the bond issue to a countywide referendum. Rather than face an election they knew they would lose, the commissioners voted to halt the planned bond sale.

Thwarted again, Guenzel says the board will now have to consider its options. The county is forming a committee to study a twenty-year facilities plan. Guenzel said it will issue its recommendations "probably by the end of the year."

Dan Minzey calls the board's decision "a good one." His "only concern" is that the county "won't take the next step to generate new tax dollars." Minzey, whose nonsupport helped sink the last jail millage and whose deputies just helped sink the most recent plan, now says the county has to "go to the townships and tell them that they have to have a new millage. Somebody's got to pay for the jail expansion."

Bob Guenzel can only agree. Asked whether the jail still needs to be expanded, he replies with a laugh, "The problem didn't go away. Overcrowding still occurs every week."

Two things remain certain. One: With most county commissioners coming from communities that have their own police forces, the townships can't change the political balance of power. The voters can block Guenzel on millages and bonds, but, slowly and surely, he is shifting the price of police protection onto those who use it. Two: The jail is still overcrowded, and sooner or later the county will have to do something about it. What the voters will permit remains to be seen. ■

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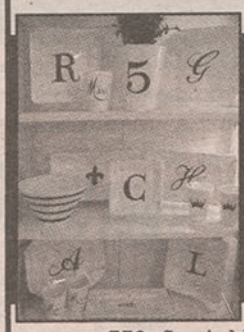

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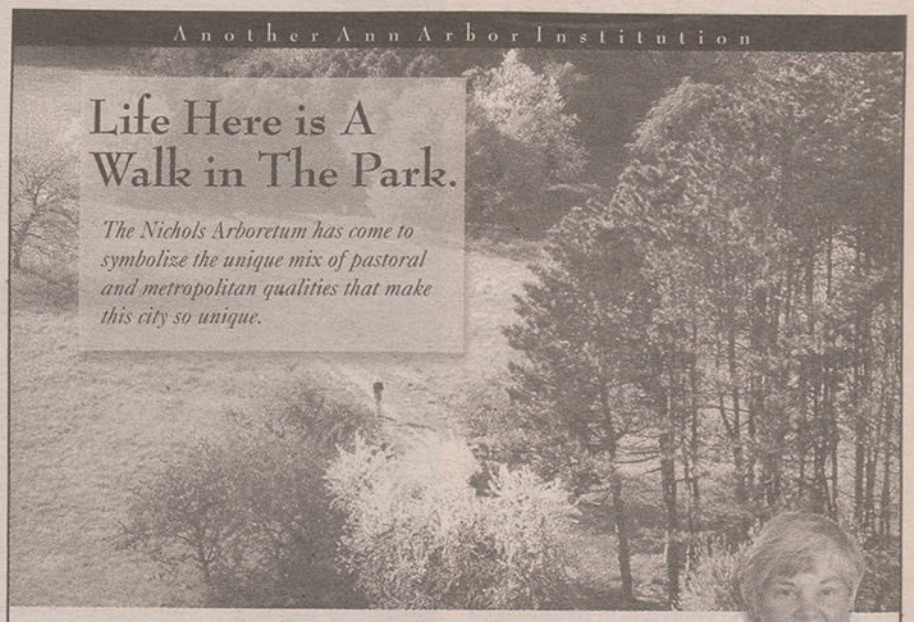

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Argo Pond, Unplugged?

The best of enemies square off over the city's aging impoundment.

by Steve Gilzow

Laura Rubin of the Huron River Watershed Council and U-M men's crew coach Gregg Hartsuff express mutual respect, but they disagree about the future of Argo Pond. "I would align myself with the Watershed Council in most cases," says Hartsuff. "It's just that they want the dam gone, we want it to stay."

Last June one of my colored pencil drawings was on the cover of the Observer. It depicts a rower at dawn on Argo Pond. Though the finished drawing shows a woman, one of the main models was a young man, Kevin Alschuler, a coach for the Ann Arbor Rowing Club. He met me at Argo Pond so I could photograph him from my canoe.

Kevin was gracious, patient, and accommodating. But then I suggested a shot with the NEW Center in the background; I told him that I wanted to combine a rower with the building that houses the Huron River Watershed Council.

"Um, well, maybe . . ." Kevin hesitated. "But we're not getting along too well these days."

"Who's not getting along?" I asked.

"The rowers and the Watershed Council."

"Why not?"

"Well, they want to take out the dam here."

The implications were obvious. No more Argo Dam, no more Argo Pond; no more pond, no more rowing—at least not at Argo.

Full disclosure here: I'm a supporter of the Watershed Council. As a canoeist and a contributor to the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society, Environmental Defense, and the Nature Conservancy, I'm basically in favor of removing any dam that can be removed.

But my time with the rowers had touched me. Disciplined and dedicated, they were on the water at dawn, training to achieve the elusive perfect stroke. I saw men and women, teens and octogenarians. I witnessed a pair of middle-aged men, one blind, the other with a prosthetic leg, carry their shell to the water, carefully maintain balance while getting aboard, and, with virtually no words exchanged, stroke swiftly away.

To my eyes, Argo Pond was a weedy, almost stagnant corruption of the Huron River. Yet the question of draining it wasn't so simple once I met these rowers.

Why remove Argo Dam?

The idea of pulling the plug on Argo was first raised in 1995. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division published a "Huron River Assessment" that suggested "rehabilitat[ing] attractive, high-gradient reaches by removing retired hydroelectric dams in the Ann Arbor–Ypsilanti area (e.g. Argo and [Peninsular Paper])."

Environmentalists don't like dams because moving water, and the sediment it carries, define a river. When a dam delays a river, the water becomes warmer, loses oxygen, and drops its sediment. Over time an overabundance of plant growth arises, followed by an overabundance of dead plants. All of this makes a poor environment for fish and other water-dwellers.

Dams also hurt the river downstream. Sometimes the riverbed below Argo is almost dry; the next day it may be scoured by pounding water. A freely flowing river has more gradual changes in level. It supports more life.

In addition, all dams require upkeep. When a dam provides a vital service—such as drinking water or electricity—the decision to spend money on maintenance is simple. When a dam's job dwindles to one function, and that one function is recreational, whoever owns the dam might hesitate to finance the next big repair.

And that's why, all across the United States, a generation of retired hydroelectric dams are being considered for removal. In Michigan this year, the Dimondale Dam, on the Grand River, and the Rice Creek Dam, on a Kalamazoo River tributary, are scheduled for removal. Closer to home, the Dexter Village Council decided in December to remove the dam on Mill Creek, a tributary of the Huron.

In the fall of 1999 and winter of 2000, the Huron River Watershed Council conducted two public forums for "stakeholders"—groups with a strong interest in the future of Argo Pond. These included city parks personnel, the DNR, and members of the city's rowing clubs. The meetings might be considered the council's way of "testing the waters" for removing the dam. In the recollection of Laura Rubin, then a staffer with the HRWC and now its director, those waters quickly became hot.

Rubin says the "rowing community"—

PHOTOS: TOP TWO, GRIFFIN LINDSAY; ROWERS, DAVID BARBER

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Argo Pond, Unplugged?

continued

the Ann Arbor Rowing Club, the U-M men's and women's crews, and the Pioneer and Huron crews—"came out in force." In her memory, the rowers said they would "fight to the end" to preserve the pond. In a discussion about the money required to remove the dam, she recalls that "a rower raised his hand and said, 'You need to factor in a couple million dollars for when we sue you.'"

The U-M men's crew coach, Gregg Hartsuff, has a milder memory of the meetings: "I would say it was all very cordial. Nobody was in anybody's face."

In 2003 the Watershed Council published a paper, "Case Studies in River Restoration through Dam Removal," looking at Mill Creek and Argo dams. Last year it worked with grad students in the U-M School of Natural Resources and Environment (SNRE) to survey public attitudes toward removing Argo. The survey's abstract states that "after a description of the trade-offs involved, dam removal was generally supported by residents and the net willingness to pay for removal was approximately $20 per adult per year."

In one dry, academic sentence, the statement boils down a range of pungent responses. Dozens of comments written by those who responded to the survey are reproduced at the back of the paper. Here are four:

I want whatever costs the least and pisses off the environment freaks the most.

For a school of natural resources and environment, you wasted a lot of paper by repeatedly mailing me this crap. From now on, leave me alone.

I find rowing to be a huge detraction to the experience at Argo. The wake of chase boats in no-wake zone. The screaming over bullhorn and their unwillingness to yield to [canoeists] has reduced my paddling there. The current level of impact by rowers on low impact users is highly undesirable. The oak/hickory forest on the east shore is the nicest natured area in A2, but is ruined by all the motorboats and bullhorns.

If the Argo Dam is removed then we lose our place to row. I can understand some people think there are too many dams on the Huron River, and I have to agree with them, but why this particular dam? If the Argo Dam is removed then all the rowing clubs and teams that use that area will have no place to row, then what? The rowing community will be in an uproar.

The U-M men's crew has rowed on Argo Pond since 1976, and the AARC since the early 1980s. Huron's crew has been there since about 1993, Pioneer's since 1999.

All of these groups, but especially the U-M men's crew, have persisted through a succession of difficulties and chronically small budgets to establish their sport at Argo. As a "club" sport, the men receive just $8,000 a year from the university—less than 6 percent of their $143,000 annual budget. The rest is made up by the athletes: each oarsman *pays* $1,400 a year to participate in the sport.

The team raises the rest of its budget in the community; one staple fund-raiser is "Rent a Rower," in which people pay for the services of a well-conditioned rower for tasks such as raking lawns. In 1994 the crew solicited the Kellogg company for funding. They wound up with several cases of Pop-Tarts, which they tried, without much success, to sell to incoming freshmen. Imagine a U-M football player selling Girl Scout cookies to buy equipment, and you have a sense of how self motivated the rowers have been.

During the early 1980s U-M crew sought a site for a boathouse. Their original preference was to locate it on city-owned land adjacent to Barton Dam. From there, they hoped to row at both Barton and Argo ponds. But after a trial year of rowing at Barton Pond, the city had heard enough vehement opposition from Barton Hills residents that the proposal was dropped.

In a discussion about the money required to remove the dam, Rubin recalls that "a rower raised his hand and said, 'You need to factor in a couple million dollars for when we sue you.'"

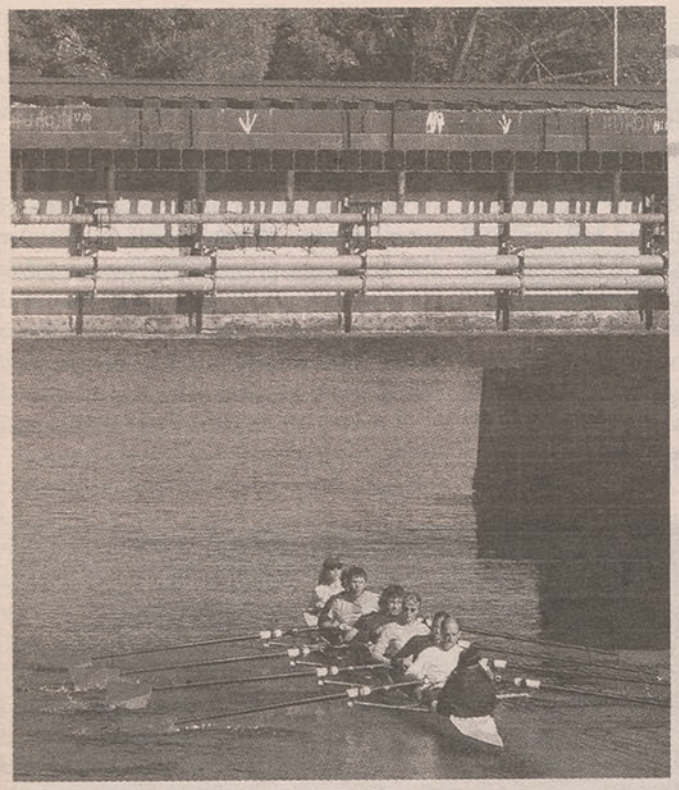
The rowers ended up building on Harry Hawkins's land on the west side of Argo Pond. When the city bought the land from Hawkins in 1994, Hawkins included a stipulation that the boathouse be allowed to stay, with the team paying a lease to the city as it had to him.

Shortly after the U-M rowers moved into their boathouse, the recently formed Ann Arbor Rowing Club asked to rent space in it. The U-M crew, always needing revenue, leased space to the AARC and, later, the Huron High crew. Tensions soon developed.

"It was like a family living in too small a house," says Gregg Hartsuff. "Something had to give." In fall 1994, the U-M crew told the AARC and Huron to pack up and leave.

Huron and the AARC then used Quonset huts, a cinder-block garage, and even one of the old Argo Pond icehouses to store boats and equipment. Pioneer began its program in 1999 in the same circumstances. In 2002 the three teams moved into the new, city-owned Beal Community Boathouse; the AARC rents it from the city and subleases space to the high school crews.

With the rowing "family" spread out into two homes, relations improved. The four crews now come together through regular meetings of the Organization for Ann Arbor Rowing (OAAR). A key part of OAAR's



Between the U-M, Pioneer, and Huron crews and the Ann Arbor Rowing Club, 500–750 people a year row at Argo.

business is scheduling practice times at Argo. With so many boats on the water, staggered practice times are essential.

The U-M men's crew currently has fifty-one members, and Huron and Pioneer each have sixty to ninety rowers at a time. The AARC has between 100 and 120 members; its "Learn To Row" classes have introduced many others to the sport. One day, while sitting on the dock talking with the AARC's Ron Woodman, I watched as a woman was carried to a modified single scull, a shorter craft with outriggers to prevent tipping. She did not have use of her legs. Her husband and a woman rower lowered her into the boat, and she soon had it flying over the water. I could only imagine how freeing it must have felt.

Edison and after

The concrete dam that creates Argo Pond was built in 1913, one of a string of dams Detroit Edison built on the Huron for hydroelectric power. Earlier wood and earth dams at the same spot had powered mills for most of the nineteenth century.

Argo Dam was never an outstanding producer of either electricity or revenue, and Detroit Edison shut down its generators in 1959. Four years later it sold the dams and powerhouses at Argo, Barton, Geddes, and Superior to the city. The city repaired the dams after a flood in 1968, and in the 1980s it refitted the Barton and Superior powerhouses to again produce electricity.

As the ponds approach the century mark, though, they are showing their age. One aspect of Argo Pond that all sides agree on is that it is filling in with weeds.

Things got so bad a couple years ago that the rowing teams pooled their resources to buy a "lake mower." Mounted on a powerboat, it cuts a swath about four feet deep, four feet wide, on each pass. While mowing has allowed the rowers to continue to use parts of the pond that otherwise would be impassable, it's at best a temporary fix. Eurasian milfoil and curly pondweed, two of the invasive plants filling the pond, come back even thicker after being cut.

Matt Naud is the city's environmental coordinator. His view of cutting the weeds? "In my understanding, it's absolutely the wrong thing to do in that area. I understand their need to do that, but it's not part of an integrated approach that anyone has talked to us about, or talked to the state about. It's just something they do, as far as I know."

"We know that it's not good," Gregg Hartsuff acknowledges. "It's a short-term solution, but as it is, we're losing the body of water to the natural life cycle of the impoundment. Now, essentially the entire upper thousand or seven hundred fifty meters from Barton Dam down is pretty much gone in the summer; it's all weeds."

The same thing happens eventually at all dam-formed ponds. As a river slows down, it drops its sediment. As the sediment builds up, the pond gets shallower, and increasing numbers of plants can grow.

Knowing that nature is working against the rowers, what would Hartsuff like to see happen?

"Dredge. Completely dredge it out. We know the cost would be at least a five-digit figure, depending on how extensively you did it."

That would be on top of the dam's regularly required maintenance. The city already spends approximately $20,000 a year to keep Argo Dam operating. Ten years ago it spent $135,000 to do more extensive repairs, and in the next five to eight years, that will need to be done again.

Eventually decisions will need to be made about sedimentation, weeds, and repairs at all the city dams. The rowers argue for spending whatever it takes to keep Argo open, but the other side makes at least as compelling a case.

Barton and Superior generate electricity, and Barton also provides 80 percent of the city's drinking water. Like Argo, Geddes Pond is used only for recreation—but it's at Gallup Park, with much easier access and far more users.

If not Argo, where?

One rowing group has already left Argo Pond: the U-M women's crew moved to Belleville Lake, about fifteen miles southeast. But coach Hartsuff says moving is "not really an option" for the men's crew. In contrast to his club's $8,000 stipend, women's crew gets about $850,000 annually from the university as a varsity sport. The women can afford fa-

PHOTO DAVID BARBER

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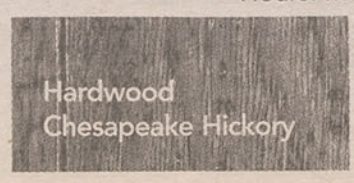

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Argo Pond, Unplugged?

continued

cilities and transportation costs the men can never hope to match.

But couldn't the rowers just go to Gallup or Barton if Argo were gone? A past Pioneer coach, Mike Dove, sees possibilities. "If you look at it in terms of accessibility," Dove says, "it would be fantastic for Huron crew to row at Gallup; it's right across the road. We at Pioneer would be just as happy at Barton if there was a spot. I think that would be the best situation, to spread the rowing out."

Hartsuff and the AARC's Ron Woodman agree it would be good to spread out. But they are less optimistic about the other impoundments. Gallup is very heavily used, and Barton has access problems.

Even so, Woodman has thought about rowing at Gallup Pond, using land belonging to Concordia College. "It would be a little problematic, because it's a very steep slope from Concordia's campus down to the waterfront," he says. "But it's not impossible if you got a couple groups working together."

Aside from the costs of maintaining Argo Dam, the city has some good reasons to want it gone. If the pond were drained and that section of the river restored to its natural course, the city would gain at least thirty acres of new parkland, maybe more. Lowering the water level would put the newly rebuilt Argo canoe livery farther from the water, but facility supervisor Cheryl Saam says that shouldn't be a problem—the building is fine where it is, and the boats could be moved closer to the river. Like Rubin, Saam isn't out to ruin life for the rowers and sincerely hopes they can find suitable rowing elsewhere—but she's clearly excited by the possibilities of a freely flowing Huron River from Barton all the way to Gallup.

Amy Kuras, landscape architect for the parks department, laid out a recently completed loop around Argo Pond, including new paths in Bandemer Park and a walkway over the dam. She says the walkway was kept to a "bare minimum" width. "I didn't want to throw away money in the event the dam was taken out," Kuras explains. She sees advantages in keeping the dam—and advantages in removing it—and is very careful to not be an advocate for either choice. "I think everyone in the city is really cognizant of how volatile the situation is," she says. "I can envision some contentious negotiations."

Matt Naud points out that while the city water department spends money to maintain all four dams, it gets benefits (water and electricity) from only Barton and Superior. "If the Argo and Geddes dams are kept, who should be paying for them?" he asks. "If money wasn't being spent annually maintaining the dam at Argo, would that put money back on the table for providing rowing opportunities elsewhere?"

Adding interest to the question is a third alternative: reconfiguring the dam to create a controlled white-water run for playboaters, perhaps while still keeping some kind of impoundment. When asked about this, Kuras laughed and said, "I think it would be really cool. It would certainly add another recreation feature we don't presently have."

Former parks supervisor Ron Olson offers a variation on this alternative. "One of the things I was thinking about was if there was a way to rebuild the dam in such a way that you could create a very good fish ladder," Olson recalls. "Do it so fish could move more freely in the river, but still retain the pond so that people could still do the rowing, because that is a big deal and Argo is a spot that has a tradition of rowing."

Of course, these options would cost quite a bit more; as Laura Rubin says, "you'd be paying to not only remove the dam, but to rebuild it." That brings up a key point: just as maintenance is costly, removing a dam is expensive too.

How much would it cost to remove Argo Dam? It depends on how the project is done, but the SNRE survey asked people to think in terms of $1–$2 million. It could be argued—and likely will be argued—that spending that much money on maintenance could buy many years of dam repairs, with maybe some dredging thrown in.

The debate begins

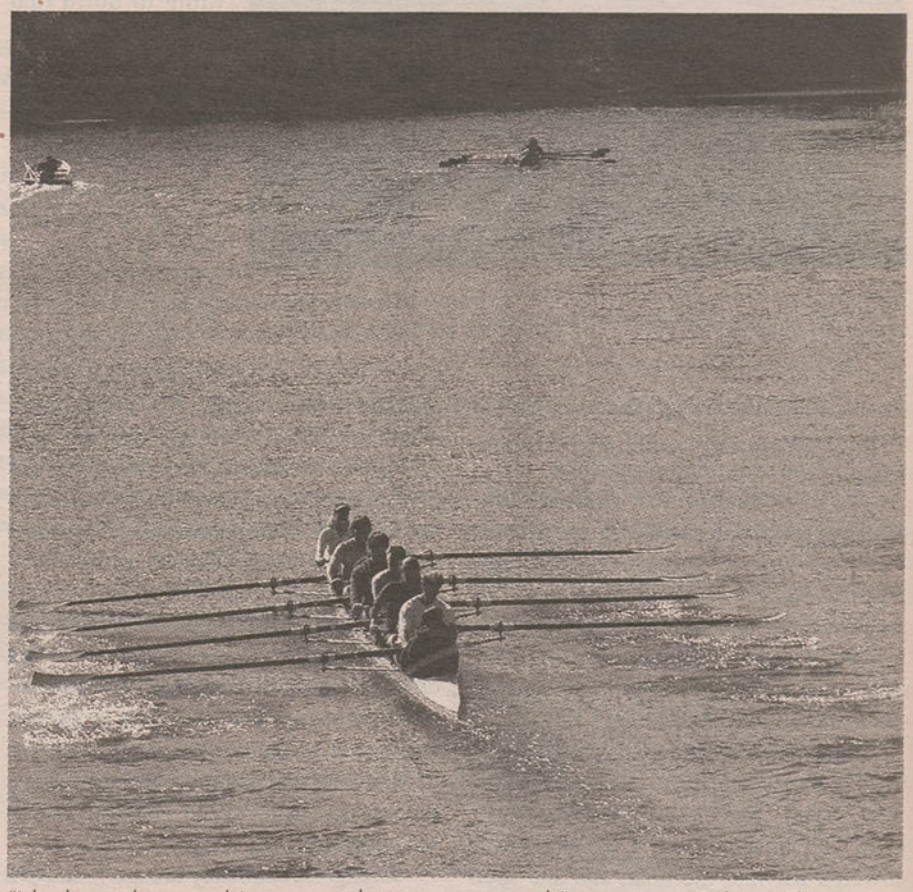
The Watershed Council's Laura Rubin put it this way: "I look out there and I see a stinky, stagnant pond. The rowers look out there and see a beautiful pond for rowing on. I clearly understand the differences. This is where they find peace, solace, and exercise.

"I have a lot of respect and admiration for the rowing teams, because it's a beautiful sport. They have, in their view, a beautiful pond here. Being a lover of athletics, I know what it's like to have a sport that you love, and how you feel when it's threatened. It would be nice to be able to come to a common ground on this.

"I hope we can. We may not be able to. Really, we want to find an alternative pond for the rowers to use, and we have gone as far as talking to the Ann Arbor parks department, the village of Barton Hills, and individual rowing teams and clubs to identify their priority pond. We know back when rowing started in the city, the rowing club's first priority was Barton and their last was Argo. So now we want to find out whether we can help make these other options work. But it's not as though the river's health wins out and tough luck for the rowers."

Ron Woodman, of the AARC, wonders how close to the "original riverscape" the city can hope to get by removing the dam.

"What have you gained if you remove the Argo Dam? Have you turned the Huron into a wild river? No. A stretch between the Barton Dam and the Geddes Dam will be drastically changed. You'll have a narrower stream of water. You're not going to have the surface area you presently have for recreation or aesthetics,



"I look out there and I see a stinky, stagnant pond," says Laura Rubin. "The rowers look out there and see a beautiful pond for rowing on."

PHOTO DAVID BARBER

Ron Woodman, of the Ann Arbor Rowing Club, wonders how close to the "original riverscape" the city can hope to get by removing the dam.

both on or near the water. Try to envision the shoreline turning to cattails and other vegetation going out hundreds of feet towards this narrow little watercourse.

"I don't really think you're going to accomplish the stated goal of turning the Huron back into a wild river or a 'natural watercourse,' because of the existing dams at Barton and Geddes. So why spend the time and money to accomplish such a small result? It's hard for me to fathom that, especially when it will impact us so heavily and others that use the water in the format it's in right now."

Gregg Hartsuff sums it up this way: "This is the only place we have to row. It's not the only place people can fish.

"I would align myself with the Watershed Council in most cases. They have always been professional and courteous. They invited us into the meetings as 'stakeholders.' That's appreciated. They could have been more militant and sort of backdoored everything. It's just that they want the dam gone, we want it to stay.

"The thing that the Watershed Council has on their side is time, because there is a ticking clock. At some point when we are absolutely pressed to get it done, we're going to have to ask the city about dredging. At that point, the Huron River Watershed Council is going to have a pretty good argument for saying, 'Why not just remove it?'

"What we have going for us is we have a recreational activity that is impacting—depending on the year—five hundred to seven hundred fifty people. Not all are avid rowers, but they have some interest in rowing. And they would like to see it stay. I think we can safely say there's a value to the community.

"If we absolutely had to call out the troops, we have a list of over five hundred people who annually get our kids for 'Rent a Rower,' the fund-raiser we do. They love having our guys coming to their houses to wash windows and rake leaves and do the various chores. I know of some people who have connections, that really have pull, and I think they'd step up for us."

I began and ended the experience of researching this story filled with conflicting feelings, seesawing thoughts. I'd be very disappointed to see an end to rowing in Ann Arbor. Yet it's also disappointing to see Argo Pond become more stagnant year by year.

Someday—no one knows exactly when—the combination of increasing sediment, plant growth, and costly repairs to the dam will make rowing unsustainable on Argo Pond. For now, the rowers keep cutting weeds and hoping for dredging. If the pond can't be dredged, they'd like to see serious weed control, perhaps using a beetle that eats Eurasian milfoil, or even herbicides. The rowers know this would require Michigan Department of Environmental Quality permits and probably permission from the city.

If herbicide permits or dredging is not forthcoming—and neither seems likely—they'll need significant help relocating to either Barton or Gallup. They realize Mother Nature is not on their side. But they hope the city of Ann Arbor will be.

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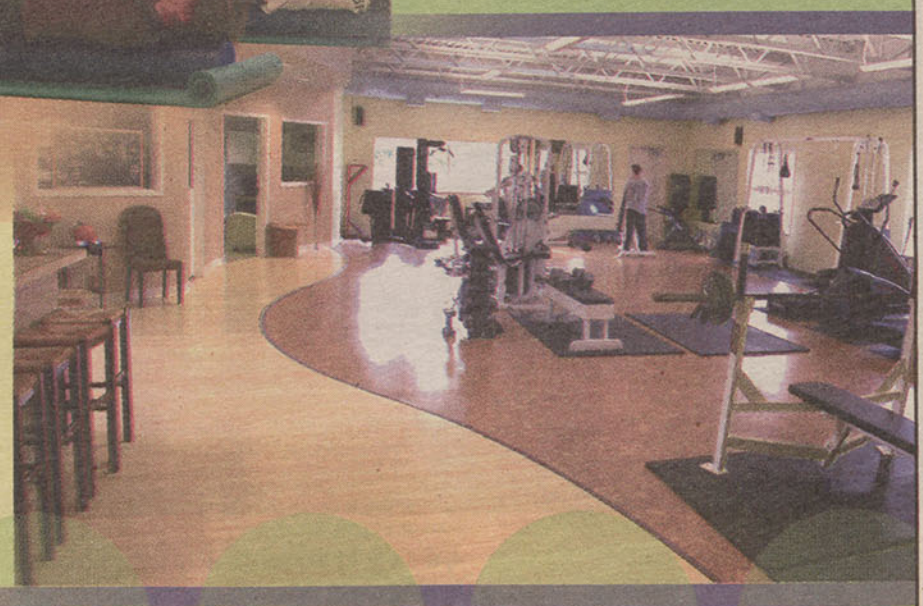

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ANXIETY on RESTAURANT ROW

by Bix Engels

Ann Arbor eateries feel the pain of Michigan's wounded economy.

"Everyone's kind of holding their breath right now," says René Greff of Arbor Brewing (top). Partners Kevin Hobart and Thad and Ryan Gillies (above) made Logan more affordable by adding a lower-priced lunch menu.

Amer Bathish is delighted with the Brighton branch of Amer's Deli, which he opened this past December. "My rent here is one-third of what it is on State Street"—where he pays a staggering $13,400 a month—"and I'm doing as much or more [business]," he said in a recent telephone interview. "[Brighton] is a bedroom community, but the weekends are insane. These people drive everywhere; before they were going to Ann Arbor, to my places, or Zingerman's." Now, his Brighton customers thank him for saving them the cost of a trip to Ann Arbor.

Bathish is poised to take advantage of two economic trends that are hitting restaurants all over Michigan. One is the increase in business for sandwich shops, as noted by the Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) in its analysis of tax-revenue data. The other, harder to pin down, is the dampening effect of high gasoline prices on destination restaurants.

While Amer's Brighton venture is on the winning side of the equation, many restaurants and bars are not. MRA reports grew grimmer with the passing of every quarter in 2005. By the end of September, sales tax receipts from restaurants and bars in the state had dropped by more than 3 percent from the same period in 2004.

The restaurant industry is an important force in the Washtenaw County economy. According to U.S. census data for 2002, the latest complete figures available, more than 12,000 people work in Washtenaw County's 549 food-service and drinking establishments, with a total payroll of $128.5 million.

According to the MRA figures, nightclubs and discos, as well as sandwich shops, pizzerias, and fast-food restaurants, did better in 2005 than they had in 2004. Hotel restaurants and "class C taverns"—which serve food and the full range of alcoholic beverages—were the biggest losers. "The customers have gone from the higher end to the lower end," says MRA spokesman Andy Deloney. Fourth-quarter numbers were not available at press time, but Deloney said the MRA expected the downward trends to continue.

What does this mean for the Ann Arbor area? While most restaurateurs we talked to remain optimistic, nearly all note that the effects of Michigan's tough economic times are being felt here too.

"Everyone's kind of holding their breath right now," says René Greff, an owner of Arbor Brewing Company on East Washington, which opened in 1995. "We were almost exactly flat last year. To put that in context, we have traditionally been growing at a rate of seven to fourteen percent.

"It's weird," Greff says about the sales slump. "We like to think of Ann Arbor as recession proof, but the bad economy has finally caught up with us. Ellie Serras, who is the events coordinator of the Main Street Area Association, and I have talked informally to a lot of people downtown. Retailers and restaurants are all flat or down."

That would include several restaurants at the core of downtown's restaurant row. Michael Gibbons is president of Mainstreet Ventures, whose Ann Arbor establishments include Gratzi, the Chop House, Real Seafood Co., Palio, La Dolce Vita, and, on the north side, Carson's.

"We like to think of Ann Arbor as recession proof," René Greff says, "but the bad economy has finally caught up with us."

"Mainstreet Ventures is down about three percent this year," says Gibbons. "That's across the board, not in any particular restaurant.

"I'm talking foot traffic, not necessarily revenue. This is the first time in a long time we've seen that kind of decrease."

Gibbons, who serves on the board of the National Restaurant Association, is a past president of the MRA and still attends board functions. He says many Michigan restaurateurs have told him that their business has been hurt by the spike in fuel costs: "People who might drive in to Ann Arbor from surrounding areas might decide not to make the trip because of the higher gas prices."

While established restaurants can handle a plateau, it's tougher for newcomers, who need to have solid growth in their first few years to recoup start-up costs as well as get a sense of where they are headed. Logan opened on West Washington in late 2004 as a fairly pricey small restaurant. Kevin Hobart is one of three Logan owners. "We've generally been encouraged and impressed with the support we've gotten. We can see people are watching their budgets, though," he says. "Compared to this time last year, it feels tighter, and it has impacted our business somewhat."

While Logan started as a sophisticated, dinner-only venue, it began to offer lunch this past November. "The tough economy absolutely played a role in our decision to open for lunch," says Hobart. "We see this as a crucial opportunity for growth." At midday Logan offers a simpler menu at a much lower price point, $7–$12.

"Upscale restaurants are hit much more when there's a downturn in the economy," says John Roumanis, owner of Mediterrano on State and the new Carlyle Grill on Jackson. Mediterrano was among those whose sales were down in 2005. Nevertheless, Roumanis forged ahead with plans to open the Carlyle Grill in February, a thrilling and nerve-racking prospect for an independent restaurateur. "It's exciting [to open a new restaurant]," he said. "You understand why this is usually undertaken by big corporations."

Amer Bathish sounds a similar note. While State Street has many well-established independent businesses—he mentions Bivouac, Van Boven, the Campus Inn, Red Hawk, Shaman Drum, and his own deli—"the new guys coming in, they're all franchises. . . . Look up and down State Street—you will not see the guy like me who's just getting into the business. It's all chains and people with deep pockets."

He worries that if the trend continues, downtown will lose its character—and Ann Arborites will be turned off. "The locals do not go to South U," says Bathish, whose deli on Church Street dates to 1990. "I don't want that to happen to State Street."

The situation is exacerbated by Ann Arbor's high rents. "The landlords control the people coming in and out, and you can't control the landlords. . . . It's a very tough situation," Bathish says. But allowing chains to take over downtown, he warns, is "a slow death. I saw that in Birmingham—that's ugly."

Old-timers seem less affected by the downturn, especially those with a well-established niche. That would surely include Knight's Steakhouse, which opened in 1984. "We haven't had a year where our revenues have gone down," says Angela Knight.

"We have a very solid client base," she continues. "We don't suffer when the economy's bad." Knight's advertises very

PHOTOS CIBELE VIEIRA

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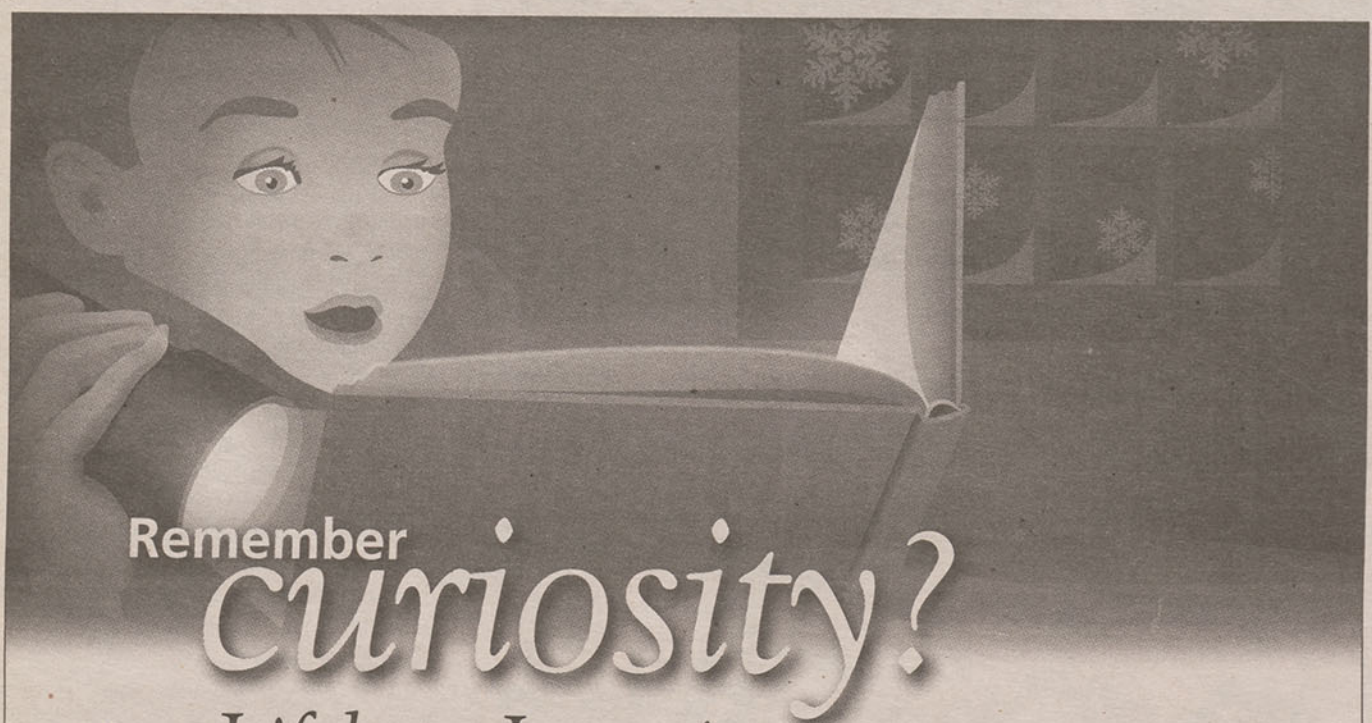

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ANXIETY on RESTAURANT ROW

continued

little and relies on word of mouth to bring in a steady stream of customers. "We're all friends and family in some way," Knight says, "and that insulates us from the ups and downs of the economy."

Zingerman's has not only escaped the slump—it's thriving. Cofounder and managing partner Paul Saginaw says that Zingerman's Roadhouse and the restaurant portion of Zingerman's Deli are tracking about 8 to 10 percent above the previous fiscal year (they are now in the middle of FY 2005–2006).

However, says Saginaw, "there are two things to mention here. First, the Roadhouse is still a new business, and you would expect it to grow. The Deli, however, is a very mature business, and is still growing well."

Saginaw sees innovation as critical. "We continue to come up with new things. We continue to improve the quality of our products and service," he says. For instance, "we have a renewed commitment to sustainable agriculture and to using local products, thanks to our [Deli] chef Rodger Bowser and [Roadhouse chef] Alex Young."

Although the Roadhouse began showing a profit by May 2004, only eight

Zingerman's has not only escaped the slump—it's thriving. Paul Saginaw says that the Roadhouse and Deli are tracking about 8 to 10 percent above the previous fiscal year.

months after its opening (which Saginaw says was slightly "chaotic"), Saginaw sees it as a very young business: "It takes three to four years for a restaurant to hit its stride. It takes a long time if you want to do something extraordinary."

Taking the long view has worked well for Zingerman's. "In 1994 we had two partners [Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig] and one business and came out with a fifteen-year vision of where we want to be," says Saginaw. "Now we have fifteen partners, seven businesses, and over four hundred employees. [In February] we're going to vision out where we want to be for the next fifteen years and what we want to look like in 2020."

Farther afield, the fourteen-year-old Common Grill in Chelsea had revenues about the same in 2005 as in 2004, says owner-chef Craig Common. "And we had an excellent year in 2004."

Dan's River Grill, Manchester's take on fine dining in a village setting, was not so lucky: on January 2, owner Daniel Huntsbarger announced its closing after six years. "It was a business decision," he says. "The economy in Michigan is soft, and the economy is Manchester is even worse."

CIBELE VIEIRA

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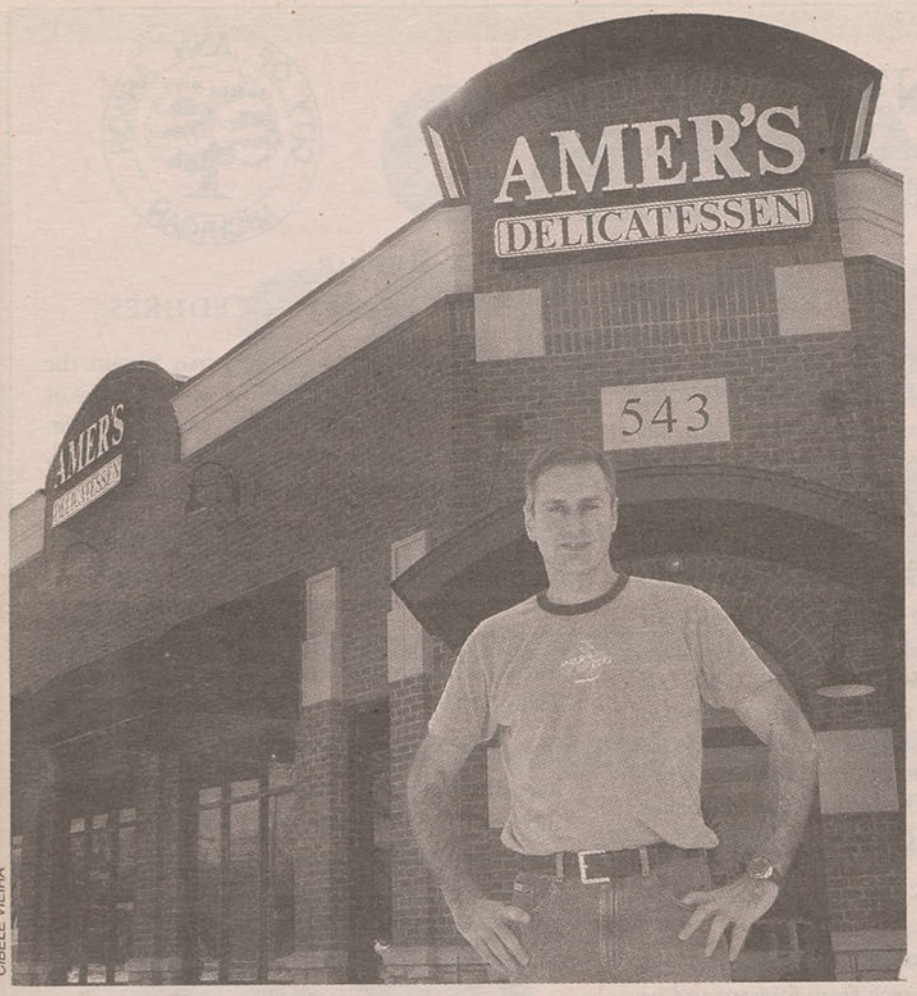

CIBELE VIEIRA

As bars and destination restaurants feel the economic pinch, sandwich shops are gaining. Amer Bathish says his new Brighton deli is already doing as well as his place across from Central Campus—and "my rent here is one-third of what it is on State Street."

"We're really, really disappointed to lose Dan's," says Manchester village president Pat Vailliencourt. "It was a very special destination point and brought a lot of visitors to our village." In the last five years, this village of roughly 2,100 people has lost 1,000 jobs within the village limits, she says.

"The River Grill had a great run when industry was thriving in Manchester, but we went from a hundred and fifty lunches a day to twenty-five or thirty," says Huntsbarger. With four lunch places within sight of Dan's, there was also stiff competition for customers. The restaurant maintained a strong weekend business, but it was not enough to sustain a full-time operation that at its peak employed thirty-five to forty people. Huntsbarger's Ann Arbor restaurant, Daniel's on Liberty—the former Moveable Feast—closed last year. The building was sold and will be converted to office space. Huntsbarger is now focusing on his catering business, also called the Moveable Feast, which will operate out of the former Dan's River Grill location.

While the restaurant industry is criticized for providing mainly low-paying work (it is Washtenaw County's fourth-largest industry in number of employees but only eighth in payroll), a healthy restaurant community has a larger economic impact.

Tim Robinson is vice-president of the Washtenaw Development Council, which works to attract jobs and businesses to the county. The great range of restaurants in Ann Arbor shows the city's diversity, says Robinson. "When I'm walking clients around downtown, they usually remark on it.

"Especially when we're trying to locate people in the area, it helps attract companies," he says. "When you move people here, most questions revolve around the quality of life. That may start with schools, safety, and health care, but entertainment and restaurants are also important. It's a wonderful leading indicator of the vibrancy of the community."

Despite high rents, seasonal fluctuations, and tough economic times, local businesspeople are still taking the plunge—right into the heart of Main Street. With partner Kristin Jonna, Jon Carlson of Grizzly Peak is creating a new wine bar and restaurant, Vinology, in the old Mayer-Schairer building. Paul Hannah, Vinology's wine director, says they expect to open by mid-April. In mid-February, Helen Rosenau and Mark Lally were about to open Pepperz (see Marketplace Changes) in the former Don Carlos at 311 South Main.

Others are looking to greener pastures—even if they're just on the other side of the fence, as Amer Bathish did with his Brighton deli. It's a best-of-both-worlds approach: start with a somewhat familiar customer base while taking advantage of lower operating costs. René Greff is planning to launch her next venture, called the Corner Brewery, in Ypsilanti; she says it's on track for a May 1 opening. And in Ypsilanti, Greff will never have to worry about rent increases—she and her husband, Matt, are buying the 10,000-square-foot building. "I don't think we could have afforded to buy that kind of space in Ann Arbor," she says. ■

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Public Sidewalk Maintenance

The following information provides property owners with the procedures and various options to ensure the safety and maintenance of public sidewalks within the City of Ann Arbor.

Three Reasons to Repair Your Public Sidewalk:

- Children, the elderly, and the physically challenged use our sidewalks daily. Poorly maintained sidewalks carry high risks for injury. Your help is appreciated to make sure all residents may travel safely along our sidewalks.
- City Code (chapters 47 and 49) requires property owners to properly maintain the sidewalks and public walkways adjacent to or abutting their property for the use of the public.
- Properly maintained sidewalks decrease your liability and enhance the overall aesthetic image of our City.

Property owners may verify that a contractor has a permit by calling the Community Services Area at (734) 994-2674 at least one day before work begins. Hint: Multiple property owners working together may receive lower prices from a contractor. More information is available on the City's website at: www.a2gov.org/sidewalk

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Whose responsibility is it to maintain and repair the public sidewalks and walkways?

A: Per City Code, Chapter 49, Section 4:58, all sidewalks within the city shall be kept and maintained in good repair by the owner of the adjacent land.

Q: How do I report a sidewalk that needs repair? How can I check if my sidewalk needs repair?

A: You simply talk with the City's Customer Service Center at **(734) 994-2818**. This call will trigger a request to the Technical Services Unit for a sidewalk inspection. If repairs are needed, the City will notify the property owner by letter of the specific requirements to bring the sidewalk into compliance.

Q: What if the sidewalk damage appears to be caused by tree roots?

A: Please call **(734) 994-2818** to initiate an inspection by a staff person from forestry and/or the Technical Services Unit to see if a problematic root can be removed without endangering the stability and health of the tree. The property owner is still responsible for the sidewalk repair costs.

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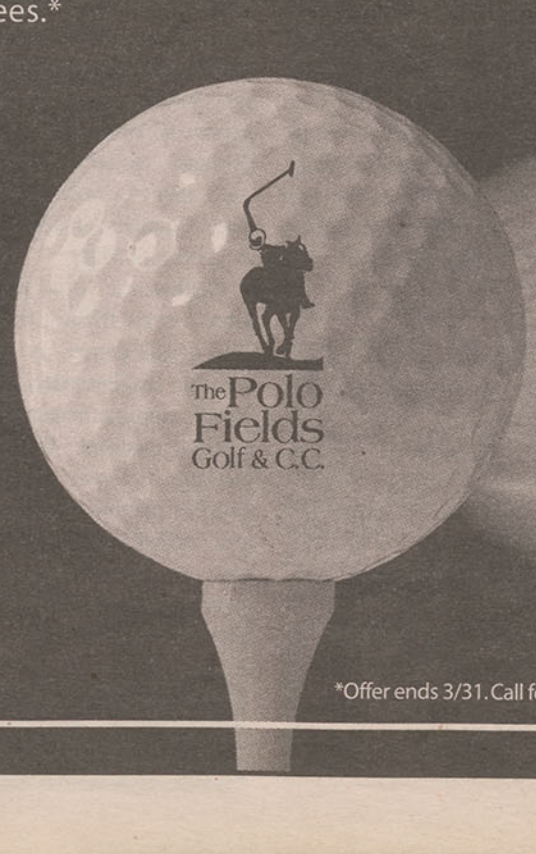

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CANNONS, COMBAT, AND CONTROVERSY

Local reenactors bring history —and its issues— to life.

by Lara Zielin

At Cobblestone Farm, living history interpreter Jane Carr sees the potential and problems of reenactments firsthand. When Xavier Allen re-creates eighteenth-century battles, he meets "a lot of people who are not accepting of a black man in a red coat."

When war reenactors re-create historic battle scenes, local settings such as Cobblestone Farm are transformed. The air is filled with the sound of musket fire and cannons booming; it's also acrid with smoke from both the weaponry and nearby fires. Men writhe on the ground as if shot or maimed, screaming out in pain. Women with the hems of their skirts bloodied and soiled may care for the wounded.

Between battles, these dedicated hobbyists participate in physically taxing practices and conduct extensive research to make their characters more believable. They explore and portray little-known aspects of history, and when they perform these histories publicly, they communicate valuable information—much of which never makes it into the history books.

But there are problems as well as benefits to this unique pastime. While it's an opportunity to act out different historical scenarios, not all perspectives therein are welcome. The accuracy of reenactments varies. And sometimes the hobby raises more questions than it provides answers.

A snapshot of reenactment in Ann Arbor reveals a hobby more complicated than most. What appears on the surface to be historical pageantry might just be something much deeper: a metaphor for the way history is disseminated and understood, writ large.

"It couldn't have happened that way"

Xavier Allen, a local reenactor, specializes in scenes in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Allen spends most of his extra money on period-appropriate clothing and weapons. His information and portrayal are nearly flawless. Yet his role on the battlefield is contentious, at least for some.

That's because when he reenacts, Allen plays a "Redcoat"—a British soldier fighting to secure the resources and people of the American colonies for Britain. Some people who see Allen at reenactments—and even some other participants—tell him, "No, it couldn't have happened that way." While this happens on some level for all reenactors, it does so especially for Allen—largely because he's black.

"I will admit there are a lot of people who are not accepting of a black man in a red coat," says Allen with flawless diction and a hard-to-place accent layered with the dialects of the places he lived as a child, including Europe and Canada. "There are always some who will scorn what they don't understand," says the man nominated four times for *Ann Arbor News* Citizen of the Year because of his role as a historic preservationist. "There will always be those who want a sanitized version of events."

The role Allen plays in the Revolutionary War isn't really very hard to fathom. During the conflict, Britain needed troops and offered freedom, contingent on victory, to any black soldier who joined forces with the Crown. Slaves signed up in droves. The Continental Army also enlisted black soldiers and eventually followed Britain's lead in offering freedom as a reward. Still, Allen's portrayal is a stark reminder that black Americans, like whites, fought and died on both sides of the Revolutionary War—a truth that makes some people uncomfortable.

Despite this, or perhaps because of it, Allen is determined to keep on reenacting. "It's my mission," he says. He remembers how, when he was young, his grandmother would caution him to "remember the stories behind the stories" as they watched TV and movies like John Wayne's *The Alamo*—which used only a few Mexican actors.

"Not many white reenactors will know minorities' history and roles in these battles," says Allen. He says he's inspired and informed by both his birth parents' Jamaican-Scottish ancestry and his adoptive parents' German, Italian, and Irish heritage. "I want to make accurate any inaccuracies in the history books," he says, "and give people a voice no matter what culture they come from."

War is no place for a lady . . . right?

Marie Lobbezoo is an experienced local reenactor with a master's degree in World War II military history. She met her husband, Jeremy, at a Civil War reenact-

PHOTOS: REVOLUTIONARY WAR, COURTESY XAVIER ALLEN; JANE CARR, J. ADRIAN WYLIE

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CANNONS, COMBAT, AND CONTROVERSY

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Allen's portrayal is a reminder that during the Revolutionary War, Britain offered freedom to any black soldier who joined forces with the Crown. Slaves signed up in droves.

ment eight years ago. They were working side by side in flea-infested hay to depict appalling 1860s hospital conditions: the perfect atmosphere for love to blossom between two history junkies.

The two were married in a traditional Civil War ceremony—"That means there was a lot of scripture," says Lobbezoo. A photo shows her standing erect in the wedding dress she made herself—a smiling redhead in a lacy, layered piece with a formal, high neck and nipped waist. Beside her is Jeremy, outfitted in the dark blue wool of a Union uniform.

Men far outnumber women at most reenactments. "When you do Civil War reenactment, there's one woman [on the field, in costume] for every ten males," says Lobbezoo. "In the French and Indian War, there's one woman for every fifteen to twenty males, and in World War II, there's one woman for every fifty males."

In addition to being a minority member in the field, Lobbezoo chooses to portray some nontraditional roles. For example, because of her vast knowledge of military history, she sometimes participates as part of a cannon crew in a Civil War naval unit. Cannons are some of the most exciting parts of reenactment, but it takes a large amount of physical work and training to crew one. Besides transporting and cleaning the weapon, safety training is required to prevent injuries to both the crew members and the public. "This is far too much work for many people," explains Lobbezoo, "so many crews take anyone who will stick with it, including women."

Historically, women weren't allowed to be part of cannon crews, and some male reenactors frown on the inaccuracy. But Lobbezoo insists that safety and proper procedure are more important than gender. "We provide spectators with an opportunity to see a weapon of war in action," she says. "This was the equivalent of a machine gun back then, and it's a critical piece of weaponry. People should be able to see the way it really worked."

Male reenactors' "level of discomfort depends on their level of tolerance," Lobbezoo says. "Some groups are hard core and won't let women reenact in anything but traditional roles. Other groups are more lenient and don't really care, so long as you do a good impression."

Some women get around the problem by cross-dressing, which is largely tolerated because there are historical records of women who dressed as men and fought in wars. But ultimately, Lobbezoo says, spectators and many male reenactors "have a much easier time seeing women as nurses, cooks, and officers' wives rather than as part of cannon crews or fighting on the battlefield." She also acknowledges that such a preference is certainly not limited to reenactment. "I had to fight against gender stereotypes in my field of research," she says. "And let's face it, guys look at these," she says, gesturing at her chest, "before they consider this," she says, pointing to her head.

She adds that when she reenacts traditional female roles, male fellow reenactors are more likely to regard her as authentic. To be sure, Lobbezoo *does* enjoy these roles, including her impression of Marlene Dietrich, whose bone structure and deep voice are a good fit with Lobbezoo's Germanic heritage and years of voice training. During evening "USO shows for the boys," Lobbezoo dons a ruby red dress and a white mink stole and croons tunes to hooting soldiers.

But while Lobbezoo can "play" women and play them well, it bothers her when men discount her expertise in military history. "Sometimes either a fellow male reenactor or a spectator will blow off what I have to say, and then I have to watch as they give inaccurate information to the public."

Lobbezoo recalls an incident at a World War II reenactment at a small historic village in Indiana. An eight-year-old boy asked her, "Did women really fight in World War II?" Before she could answer, a village staff member answered and said no, women were just nurses. Lobbezoo politely added that women also drove trucks, repaired airplanes, and were even killed in the line of duty if their field hospital took a direct shell hit. The village staff member was unimpressed. "But mostly they were just nurses," he said.

This may be true, Lobbezoo acknowledges today, but at the time she was frustrated by the staff member's comments. "The auxiliary functions that women performed in any war were numerous and

PHOTOS: TOP, COURTESY XAVIER ALLEN; BOTTOM, COURTESY MARIE LOBBEZOO

varied," she says. "Women did a lot more than just nursing, and these roles were just as important as any male role."

Lobbezoo has considered defending her knowledge, skills, and right to play nontraditional roles, but says it's ultimately not worth it. "Other female reenactors and I have discussed this, and it's fairly common, but you can't fight the stereotype," she says. "You just have to work harder and do everything you can to prove you're not 'just a girl.' In the end it makes you more authentic and makes you a better reenactor."

Edutainment

Like many other mass educational media, reenactments sometimes pass on incorrect information to the public. It's not the norm, since national parent organizations oversee the reenacting hobbies and help establish guidelines for accuracy and authenticity, as well as safety regulations. Many reenactors belong to these organizations, which are a useful tool for helping create an "authentic" impression. Yet problems can persist.

Jane Carr is a living history interpreter at Cobblestone Farm, which is nestled along the edge of Buhr Park. She has witnessed problems with reenactments firsthand.

The farm, with its small budget and even smaller collection of full-time employees, depends heavily on volunteers, many of whom are reenactors. In return, the farm can provide reenactors with "a sense of place," says Carr. "We have the actual physical setting, and that gives them the opportunity to more deeply explore what life was like at that time. Those experiences are much harder to re-create in a makeshift battle zone at a public park."

The trouble, says Carr, is that when reenactors discover that sense of place, they want to really be in it, to relish it, and they can sometimes forget the public: "Once they're at the farm, reenactors aren't always interested in interpreting this place to outsiders. It can be a challenge."

There are also problems with appearance. Most reenactors are hobbyists who provide their own costumes, props, and even information. In some cases reenactors are unable to afford basic gear and run the risk of presenting the public with an incorrect picture of the era's attire. The biggest difficulties, according to Allen, come from newcomers. She says veteran reenactors will step in to correct problems if they see, for example, someone heading onto the field in tennis shoes or shorts.

Ultimately, Carr says, the benefits of reenactment for Cobblestone Farm audiences outweigh most of the hobby's potential problems. "With a job like mine," Carr says, "there's not always time for pure research. Most reenactors, on the other hand, spend large chunks of their free time doing research, and they can be an incredible resource."

It's a trade-off, then. Not every reenactor is entirely accurate, and not every group is perfect, but they're an asset to the organizations that depend on volunteers to help communicate information to a nonacademic audience. What's more, says Carr, "the public loves them." Not everyone who witnesses the event cares if it's a perfect historical scenario—it's fun to see regardless.

Brian Dunnigan, curator of maps at the U-M Clements Library, well understands the value of an "imperfect" reenactment. A historian by training, he's worked at several historic sites that use reenactors and admits it's "hard to have control over the quality of what they present." Still, he cheerleads the effectiveness of reenactment as a teaching tool, even if, as in Lobbezoo's case, women instead of men are firing cannons. "Kids really like it," he says. "Reenactors might reach someone who otherwise wouldn't be interested in history."

Marie and Jeremy Lobbezoo met at a reenactment—and were married in a traditional Civil War ceremony.

Dunnigan works with reenactors who use the rich primary-source material of the Clements to inform their performances. With its Oriental rugs, crystal chandeliers, and oil paintings, portions of the Clements feel more like a rich uncle's mansion than a library. Still, some of the most dedicated reenactors use its plentiful documents from the military and maritime histories of the Americas—including, for example, a letter from the British general Thomas Gage sending troops to Lexington and Concord—to perfect their hobby.

With a superb resource like the Clements available, it isn't hard for many local reenactors to get their histories straight. But Amy Tyson, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Minnesota studying living history interpreters, says that some people who portray life in another age have a hard time separating themselves from their characters. "The character and the time period start to seep into them," she says. "The more one portrays a character or interprets a time period, the more it becomes easy to slip into those different ways of being."

Reenactors may, for example, accidentally use language from the past in the present. "They may say 'Good day' instead of 'Hello,' or may use old-fashioned slang like 'Gadzooks,'" says Tyson. Some women who take up knitting or tatting as part of their portrayals find it becomes a constant in their lives, even when they're not reenacting.

But it's not as if reenactors are confusing time periods, says Tyson. What does happen, instead, is what Lobbezoo calls "magic moments"—the times when "you get so into the reenactment it becomes real, and you feel like you're really there."

Of course a magic moment for a reenactor doesn't always translate into a teachable moment for visitors—especially if the reenactor can't "step out" of the period to interact with the public and answer questions.

"You might ask them where they got their glasses," explains Dunnigan, "and they might respond with a nineteenth-century answer. However, the visitor may actually be interested in knowing where the reenactor got his antique, reproduction glasses. It also gets complicated when the public asks extensively detailed questions or questions that cross over periods. Sometimes people just don't get the information they want or need."

Xavier Allen points out, however, that the quest for more and better information is at the heart of what reenactors do. And reenactments aren't the only way they pass on their knowledge. Allen has visited schools in both Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti to discuss little-known elements of history that teachers might not have the time—or resources—to cover. "It's not just black people's histories I talk about—it's the Native American side of things, and women's as well."

Here again, the benefits and problems of presenting history in an alternative way play themselves out.

Like his reenactment portrayals, Allen's educational messages aren't always popular. And teachers and kids don't always believe what he tells them. For example, most history books state that George Washington was a hero, yet Allen tells them he was a killer who murdered a French diplomat, de Jumonville, and started the French and Indian War as a result.

Allen is referring to a skirmish between British and French forces in Pennsylvania in May 1754. That Washington was in charge of the attacking British force there is no doubt—but whether de Jumonville was a diplomat and whether Washington himself pulled the trigger are much grayer areas.

"There are schools I haven't been invited back to," Allen says. But he is determined to keep at it. "Reenactment needs as much diversity as it can get.

"War is hell," Allen adds, "and so, too, is the retelling of it." ■

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Real Seafood

Hitting their stride

JOHN COPLEY

I approached Real Seafood Co. from neutral ground: while I had never had a memorably bad meal there, I had never had a particularly good one either. But something's up at Real Seafood. The kitchen is putting on a surprisingly good show these days.

First, though, you have to get a table. To make a reservation, you call a toll-free number that connects you to operators someplace—Mumbai? Ulaanbaatar? Xanadu?—who handle all seventeen Mainstreet Ventures restaurants. The first time I called, I was told that it was too late to make a reservation for that evening but that there was currently no wait at the door. So we hustled downtown—only to find a dozen hungry diners ahead of us.

We passed our twenty-minute wait at the bar, a convivial sort of boozeteria where people talk with strangers, or solos eat with a book propped in front of them. As we sampled the appealing list of by-the-glass wines, we chatted up the two bartenders. "What's the best thing on the menu?" we asked. "Paella Valenciana," said bartender number one. "Nah, he's crazy," said number two. "It's gotta be the cioppino."

First we sampled the appetizers. The pepper-seared tuna is a sophisticated gem, just barely seared on the exterior, sliced to show off its sushi-grade raw interior, fanned out alongside a mound of sushi rice, sprinkled with black and white sesame seeds, and squiggled with spicy mirin-soy *ponzu* sauce. The steamed Prince Edward Island mussels were meaty and fresh, though the broth was on the weak side, and we could have used crustier bread to mop up these juices. (That exception noted, the yeasty, hot-from-the-oven rolls sprinkled with poppy seeds are hard to resist.) The spicy rock shrimp was served with a marvelously chunky blue-cheese sauce, and the calamari with cilantro aioli for dipping; both deep-fried dishes passed the worth-the-calories test.

The menu offers a full raw bar as well as a list of fresh-catch fish (many of them line caught), which can be ordered blackened, grilled, or steamed Asian style, in addition to an array of more elaborate entrees. Among the main courses I sampled on successive visits was a delicious roasted Atlantic salmon. I generally prefer a fuller-flavored wild salmon, but this dish is raised up by the accompanying vegetables—asparagus and artichokes (though the Meyer lemon chutney promised on the menu was absent). Order the steamed lobster and your server will, if you wish, slip on a pair of disposable gloves and whisk the meat from the shell at tableside. It's elegant in its simplicity and served in classic style with drawn butter.

Filet mignon, one of the dinner menu's two beef dishes, was a generous and tender cut, grilled medium rare as requested. The he-stew makes a wonderful main course, each made-to-order bowl full of sautéed oysters in a cream sauce flavored with lardoons of bacon and shimmering threads of saffron. Only the standard dinner salad was a disappointment, with a harsh vinaigrette and too much grated Gruyère cheese. The Caesar is a better pick.

Many dinner dishes reappear at lunch, though the midday menu also covers sandwich territory. I liked the giant grilled-salmon BLT with its contrasting crispy bacon and grilled salmon, although the accompanying French fries were mediocre. We ended up picking the plump fried oysters from the po' boy: they were so delicious that nothing should muffle their flavor, not even a crisp baguette. The Manhattan seafood chowder and mushroom-crab bisque were delightful.

And what of the bartenders' competing best dishes, the paella and the cioppino? The paella won. With lobster, mussels, clams, shrimp, chorizo, and chicken over rice, this is an impressive dish.

But someone in the kitchen went overboard with the cayenne in the cioppino, a stew of king crab legs and shellfish in a tomato broth. The seafood was delicious, but the broth on its own was too spicy (although it made an excellent dipping medium for the accompanying crusty grilled bread).

Desserts, while made in house, didn't quite measure up to the rest of the meal— though by that point I was usually so sated I was getting picky. The Key lime pie had crust problems, and the coconut cream, though gorgeous, was oddly lacking in flavor. The chocolate brandy mousse was topped with a delicious vanilla cream, but the mousse itself, while pleasantly boozy, needed to amp up its chocolate.

Real Seafood's jaunty nautical decor feels a little forced this far inland, but the restaurant has successfully staked out a territory somewhere between big-night-out and low-key-comfortable mode. The dining room has deep, generous booths; in summer, when the oversize, garagelike doors are open, it also has some of the loveliest sidewalk seating in town. The service on all visits was exceptionally good.

Curious about the revitalized kitchen, I called and spoke with sous-chef Andy Brown, who told me that both he and head chef Ryan Couch have been at Real Seafood for about two years. They are hitting their stride.

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Glance around the dining room, and you'll also see that someone has put money and imagination into the place. Bright canvases portraying Mediterranean scenes in warm colors transport you far from East University Avenue. Flashes of copper accent the room, tables are topped with stainless steel, and chairs look comfortable. The decor was enough to get me to invest the five minutes to explore Za's food.

Za's shtick is that you fill in your own order form—and in doing so, you can customize your pizza, pasta, salad, or sandwich by selecting the toppings and accoutrements (there are also preset "specialty" selections). It's a system designed for maximum efficiency and minimal human contact.

Orders are prepared more or less sequentially, so if you come in a group, you'll likely have a staggered start to your dinner. Our party of four ordered dishes from each of Za's four food groups. Once all were assembled, the pizza and salads stood out.

The Caesar, one of the nine specialty salads, was a reasonable approximation: crisp and big, with a creamy dressing, shaved Parmesan cheese, and croutons. If you prefer to create your own, Za's offers a choice of iceberg or romaine lettuce, twelve different dressings, and your choice of up to seven toppings from a list of twenty-five that includes cheeses, sprouts, onions, and bacon.

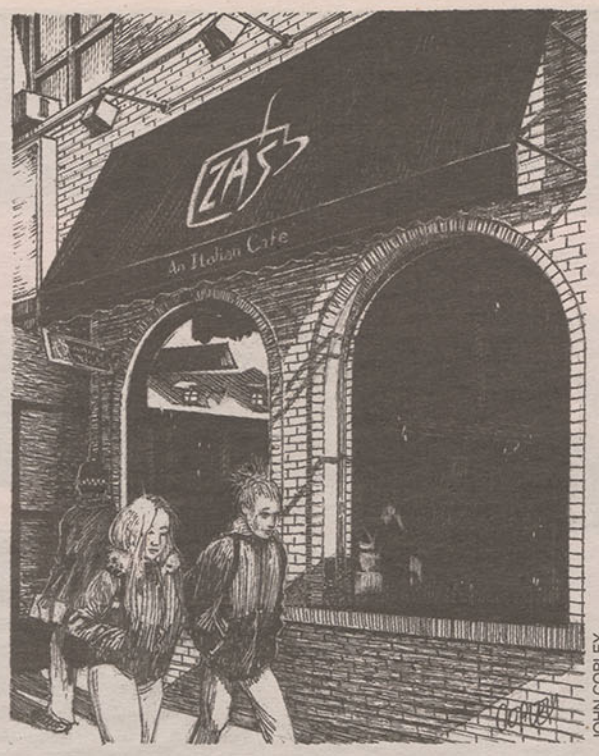
The crust on Za's personal pizza is ultrathin—it lies crisp and flat like a cracker. One suspects this dough hasn't been given much time to rise. I liked the pesto-with-grilled-veggies specialty version; the Tuscan white pizza was also tasty, although a cheese with some oomph would have taken it to more interesting places.

We tried just one panino, an open-faced sandwich on a soft, white roll of uniform texture—there was nothing remotely resembling a crust. Filling, maybe, but to me it felt like one squishy raft of carbs. Even a tide of toppings—spinach and other veggies—couldn't lift this boat. Our lone foray onto the pasta menu, a fettuccine Alfredo, was also disappointing. It quickly congealed into a lifeless mound from which I could coax no flavor.

All of the desserts, according to the server at the counter, are delivered from the Cheesecake Factory. Four of us split a splendidly gooey piece of Milky Way cheesecake. To go with it, I went back to the counter for a cup of decaf. As I watched the woman behind the counter

filling several orders at once, some caffeinated, some not, I felt there was great potential for a mix-up. I thought about that again at 3 the next morning, when I still hadn't fallen asleep.

Za's definitely works better as a quick $5 lunch place. It knows its niche—the campus loner looking for a quick, inexpensive fill-up. And students could do worse than Za's, with its healthy salads and the absence of booze and cigarettes. While I still reject "fast" and "alone" as virtues for the table, Za's will have some utility for those seeking a low-priced hot meal in pleasant surroundings.



JOHN COPLEY

Za's Italian Cafe
615 East University
No listed phone number

Daily 10 a.m.–9 p.m.

Pizza $2.99–$4.89, pasta $3.59–$5.79, salads $4.59–$5.89, sandwiches $4.29–$4.89, desserts 93¢–$2.99

Exterior steps, no ramp. Restrooms handicapped-accessible; no diaper-changing table.

Quick Bites

In her State of the State address in January, Governor Granholm spoke movingly about the many things that make up "the Michigan version of the American dream." There was the serious stuff—work, health, education. There was the fun stuff—cottages up north, fishing at dawn, white pines, Wings and Pistons games. And then there was the food: pronto pups, potluck suppers, church barbecues, and **Lenten fish fries.**

The folks at **St. Mary's in Manchester** have earned something of a reputation for their classic small-town, homemade Lenten spread. Every Friday from March 3 through April 7, they'll be setting out an all-you-can-eat buffet in their parish center (at Clinton and Madison streets) from 5 to 8 p.m. Fried or roasted cod is accompanied by salads and side items cooked up by parishioners—including vegetables, homemade macaroni and cheese, and potato dishes such as roasted new potatoes Hungarian style (the spuds are donated by a local grower). Kids will like the Oreo pudding. People come from all over southeast Michigan, and the church expects to feed more than 3,000 people over six Fridays. The cost is $9, with discounts for children and seniors.

For a more ecumenical setting, try the fish suppers at **Reddeman Farms.** Located on Dancer Road twenty minutes west of downtown Ann Arbor, the golf course dining room has a view of ponds, woods, and a spectacular gambrel-roofed red barn and white silo. The all-you-can-eat Friday night fish suppers offer baked or fried cod, soup or salad, potatoes, and vegetable for $9.50. Reddeman Farms is currently closed for the winter, so opening may not coincide precisely with the start of Lent, warns Patty McCarthy, an owner: "We'll aim to open by March seventeenth, but definitely by the twenty-fourth."

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The chef and owner of **Christian's Catering** in Milan, Christian Thompson, took a sort of busman's holiday when he visited a fellow caterer in southern California. The two chefs hung around the kitchen and cooked up delicacies like salmon poached in wine for friends and family on the beach at Malibu. But Thompson's trip to California was no run-of-the-mill vacation—the caterer he and wife Gina visited was Giada De Laurentiis, best-selling cookbook author and star of the Food Network series *Everyday Italian*. De Laurentiis is married to Christian's cousin Todd (also a Michigan native).

Gina and Christian spent an entire day at Malibu Beach watching as the show was taped, and Christian appears in a segment cooking salmon with De Laurentiis on the beach. The couple also were at the shooting of an episode filmed at the home of Giada De Laurentiis's mother—an opulent buffet to celebrate Academy Award–type film honors. (Giada De Laurentiis is the granddaughter of Oscar-winning producer Dino De Laurentiis and the late Italian actress Silvana Mangano.) The two *Everyday Italian* episodes, "Summer Entertaining" and "Awards Party," will be aired in March and April. (Exact dates were not available at press time; check foodtv.com.)

—Bix Engels

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MARKETPLACE CHANGES

Downtown in transition

Pepperz arrives as Ehnis and After Words depart

Downtown shoppers were delivered a one-two punch just after the holidays when two longtime retailers, **Ehnis & Sons** and **After Words,** announced they were going out of business. The closures are two in a string of recent retail losses downtown, including Wilkinson's Luggage (which moved to Zeeb Road), Tabor Hill, Love from Michigan, Forma, Phoenix Games, and, north of Huron, clothing boutique Moderno and Oneline Furniture Design (see Closings, below).

Neither the ninety-five-year-old Ehnis & Sons nor the twenty-seven-year-old After Words lacked loyal customers; they just didn't have enough of them. Both Jim Ehnis, one of three brothers who own Ehnis & Sons, and After Words co-owner Steve Kelly say that foot traffic downtown has dropped off over the past five years. Neither of them wanted to close his store, and both of them fought making that final call for several years before they threw in the towel. They struggled to keep going, partly because they knew from experience that closing their stores would make it harder on the retailers who remained. As Ehnis says, "The less retail there is downtown, the fewer merchants there are to bounce off of."

As business slowed, Larry, Jim, and Steve Ehnis took turns operating the store their grandfather started. At After Words, Steve Kelly saw supplies get tighter and browsers grow scarce.

Herbert Ehnis founded H. G. Ehnis in 1910. He sold horse harnesses at first; then, when cars began to replace horses, he began selling work clothes to farmers. Today the store is run by his grandsons, Jim, Steve, and Larry. The floors are still the original maple, the ceiling is the original tin, and Red Wing shoes and Carhartt work clothes still make up the bulk of the inventory. But that inventory is dwindling, day by day, as the brothers sell everything off and prepare to close the store's doors for the last time, probably in early April. The Ehnises plan to put the building up for sale.

At one time Ehnis & Sons was the only place in town selling Carhartt and OshKosh workwear, and Red Wing shoes and boots. But OshKosh switched to kids' clothes, Sears is now selling a Red Wing work boot, and Carhartts are widely available. "People like convenience these days, and it's not convenient to park and shop downtown," Jim Ehnis says. "We have more people walking in the door asking for change for the parking meter than asking questions about what we sell."

Fifteen years ago there was still enough business that all three brothers worked the store together. For the last decade or more, they've taken turns working it one at a time—and had countless discussions about how long they could keep going. "I was hoping we could hang on another four and a half years and make it a hundred years," Jim says. "A centennial store—that would have been a real milestone. But ninety-five years is still a pretty good run."

After Words wasn't as long lived, but it was certainly well loved. Community High librarian Chris Crockett says she couldn't have built the school's library without it. "It was truly amazing what I'd find there—incredible books I'd never have been able to get anywhere else," she says. "It was a wonderful resource. I'm going to miss it so, so much."

Steve and Michele Kelly opened the bookstore in 1979, with a limited inventory and their hearts in their mouths. But the offbeat shop and its stock of remaindered and overrun books developed quite a fol-

Pepperz replaces the short-lived Blue Wolverine. Owners Helen Rosenau and Mark Lally came up with the name on a midnight troll through their spice cabinet.

PHOTOS: SIGN, KATE KEHOE; OTHERS, J. ADRIAN WYLIE

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lowing—enough that in 1993 the Kellys were able to buy their building and expand the bookstore to a second, lower level.

The store's shelves were often stocked with real treasures: Crockett remembers finding a set of books on European history she'd been debating about buying from the publisher for a sale price of $800. After Words had the same set for $100. "It was serendipitous, the books I'd find there—and at amazing prices," she says. "One year I spent $2,000 of my school budget there, and it bought a tremendous, tremendous amount of wonderful books."

Over the years, though, Kelly noticed that fewer customers were inclined to browse. "We were always a store that offered a lot of odd books," he says, "but increasingly, people don't seem to have the curiosity or the time to browse. Instead, they're looking for that book they've heard about or been told to read."

It also became a struggle to find inventory. Publishers who'd once printed hundreds of thousands of copies and were willing to remainder what didn't sell became more cautious, printing limited runs. To save the time and effort of auctioning off the ones they didn't sell, they also began pulping the leftovers.

Kate Kehoe, who worked at After Words for eight years, says the staff was just as wrecked as the regular customers over the store's closing. "A lot of us had been there for years, and it really was a family," she says. "It says something that most of us would come in on our days off and hang out to chat with the customers."

After Words closed in January, after a night that was, for staff and customers, like a wake. The Kellys aren't sure what they're going to do next—the store still has remaining inventory, which they'll probably sell through on-line book discounter Abebooks, and they're looking for a tenant to lease the space. In the meantime, Kelly is grateful to the customers who helped them survive as long as they did. "People were so kind, and so good," he says. "Due to their generosity, we were able to get out of After Words without owing anyone. That's no small thing."

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As old businesses close, new ones keep popping up—with mixed success. There have been at least seven restaurants and/or bars at 311 South Main in the last eighteen years, most of them owned by landlord Andy Gulvezan—he's operated the space as the Monkey Bar & Grill, the City Grill, the Crow Bar, the Full Moon, and, most recently, the Blue Wolverine. Others who've taken a shot at the space include John Cleveland, who ran Cleveland's Gill & Grill there, and Carlos Shaffran, the namesake of Don Carlos.

Helen Rosenau and her partner, Mark Lally, think they've got a good shot at changing that record. Rosenau is a restaurant veteran who worked for Mainstreet Ventures (owners of Palio, Real Seafood, the Chop House, Gratzi, and Carson's) and catering companies as well as U.S. Foodservice. In February she and Lally were about to open **Pepperz,** a three-level restaurant with a comfortable, wood-toned atmosphere and an accessible menu of moderately priced pasta, seafood, chicken, chops, and sandwiches, all of it made from scratch—even the hand-cut chicken tenders in a homemade batter. Sandwiches are around $8–$9; entrees are mostly about $11 or $12, with a few, like thin-crust gourmet pizza and petite lamb chops, under $10.

The staff started intensive training a month before the restaurant opened. "We really want people to come in and at the end of the night go, 'Wow, that was some service!'" Rosenau says. "From the moment you walk in the front door, you should feel like you're walking into someone's home."

Rosenau's work ethic and generous warmth towards her customers and staff comes from watching her dad, who immigrated from Germany with little more than a box of books, his wife, and Rosenau's older sister, and who today owns a Brighton manufacturing company that recently doubled its size. From the beginning, the elder Rosenau offered his employees profit-sharing incentives and benefits, something his daughter plans to offer her staff as soon as the restaurant begins making money. "People told me I'd never be able to find the kind of staff I wanted," she says, "but I told them, 'Oh, yes, I will.'"

Pepperz got its name from a midnight troll through the couple's spice cabinet. "We were going, 'Basil, tarragon, salt . . . pepper—peppers!'" Rosenau laughs. "We added a picture of a pepper mill to the logo, and we were done."

Pepperz, 311 South Main, 332–5252. Mon.–Thurs. 4–10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 4 p.m.–midnight, Sun. 3–9 p.m.

Roly Poly and Pita Pit return

The rolled sandwich makes a comeback

Two rolled-sandwich franchises are making Ann Arbor comebacks: Roly Poly has already opened in a new location with new franchisees, and Pita Pit is scheduled to do the same in early March.

Roly Poly, which floundered on South University largely because of staffing problems, is testing the nonstudent waters in Lamp Post Plaza by Trader Joe's. Founded in Atlanta in 1996, Roly Poly uses a thin, lavash-style flat bread and an astonishing number of sophisticated fillings, ranging from smoked salmon club to curried chicken salad with mango chutney. Even the ham and cheese is pretty darn interesting: baked ham, melted Brie and Swiss, peach-and-pepper relish, and a side of dill horseradish sauce.

With so many sandwiches and imaginative ingredients (avocado, pesto, pineapple, sun-dried tomatoes, artichoke

hearts, cashews, fresh spinach, roasted red peppers), franchisees and their employees need to know the menu inside and out. "If the staff makes mistakes or it takes too long, the customer won't come back," says company founder Linda Wolf. "And they probably tell ten of their friends not to come, too."

Wolf got her start in a Mexican restaurant rolling burritos. Sick of beans and rice every night, she asked a friend who owned a nearby deli to bring in some cold cuts, and she started rolling those in tortillas and selling them to customers. When the newfangled burritos proved popular, Wolf began seriously testing the concept. Today she has a database of over 400 sandwich recipes, not counting the ones she's got bouncing around inside her head. "Some sandwiches haven't sold as well as we hoped, but there's never been one that's just a dog," she laughs. "Others don't work well in some markets. Some southern customers think that cold-smoked salmon is raw, so we've substituted lobster salad in those regions."

Each Roly Poly is a little different—Wolf says she encourages franchisees to bring their individual personalities to bear. In Ann Arbor, franchisee Perry Celsi has a small but bright and appealing space. There's seating for around a dozen customers, but most people get their sandwiches to go.

Roly Poly, 2412 East Stadium Boulevard, 677–0686. Mon.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

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The **Pita Pit** has five owners, including managing partners John Colliton and Ted MacRae. None of them has ever owned a Pita Pit before, but they have lots of experience with the Ontario-based company just the same: MacRae and Colliton oversaw the opening of several Ohio franchises, and the other partners are contractors who've built other Pita Pits.

Pita Pit stakes its name on its bread—a thin, firm round made especially for the chain—and its rolling method: a flap is cut into the round pita and folded back to expose the "pocket," and once the pocket is filled, the flap is closed before rolling, so that the filling is perfectly contained, with no chance to squish out the sides or the ends.

Customers choose from eighteen pita sandwiches, including chicken Caesar, Philly steak, souvlaki, ham, falafel, and hummus, with their choice of dressings and condiments. Add-ons include double meat, extra cheese, and bacon. The restaurant also sells four entree salads and soup. "We don't serve burgers, we don't serve coffee, we don't serve pizza," Colliton says. "We're healthy food, fast, and we stick to pitas, chips, and soda pop."

The Pita Pit, 211 South State, phone unavailable at press time. Mon. & Tues. 10 a.m.–11 p.m., Wed.–Sat. 10 a.m.–3 a.m., Sun. 10 a.m.–9 p.m.

Briefly Noted

The new **Taqueria La Fiesta** has a fine pedigree. It's the second area eatery for Guadalajara native Michele Roman, whose La Fiesta Mexicana in Ypsilanti is, for many, one of the region's definitive Mexican restaurants. Launched fifteen years ago at a time when the local Mexican culinary scene was pretty much limited to Tex-Mex places, La Fiesta and its rustic Mexican fare made from Roman's family recipes were a revelation. Burritos were on the menu, sure. But so were potatoes in *mole* sauce, tortilla casserole, stuffed poblano peppers, and tamales. It scarcely mattered that La Fiesta didn't have a liquor license and doesn't have much atmosphere.

The Taqueria, a tiny takeout counter with a couple of tables and chairs, is even more bare bones, but the food promises to be equally lively. Roman is drawing once again from her childhood in the Mexican state of Jalisco to offer tacos, Mexican and Cuban sandwiches, and pork hominy soup made from a recipe belonging to her father. Here, as in Jalisco, the soup comes garnished with cabbage, radishes, onion, and lime.

Other Jalisco specialties on the menu include a traditional goat dish called *birria,* which some describe as a Mexican pot roast, and a broiled beef dish Roman refers to as *barbacoa* (barbecue). "We are very

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

La Fiesta Mexicana's Michele Roman at her new Ann Arbor taqueria.

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MARKETPLACE CHANGES *continued*

happy to introduce fast food, but very classical, very high quality," Roman says.

The Taqueria was scheduled to open in mid-February as this issue went to press. Roman will be staying at La Fiesta, and her sister, Estela Cardenas, will run the new place. "She's a pretty good cook, too," Roman says.

Taqueria La Fiesta, 4060 Packard, 477–9240. Mon.–Thurs. 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun. hours yet to be decided.

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If five coffeehouses can survive within a one-block radius in downtown Ann Arbor, two ought to be able to survive at Briarwood. At least that's what Marshall and Stephanie Levijoki are hoping. The couple

If five coffeehouses can survive within a one-block radius in downtown Ann Arbor, two ought to be able to survive at Briarwood. At least that's what Archangels owners Marshall and Stephanie Levijoki are hoping.

opened **Archangels Cafe** in the mall in early December, in the space across from Arby's formerly occupied by Euphoria Oxygen Bar.

Looking like a living room, complete with faux fireplace, leather sofas, magazines, and a china cabinet, Archangels is designed to be the antithesis of the mall's other coffeehouse, Starbucks. "The mall is struggling to reinvent itself as a place that will attract new customers and will appeal to our local community," Stephanie says. "As a local, community-based cafe, we think we fit perfectly into their new goals."

In addition to custom-ground coffees, Archangels serves teas, chai, and cocoas made from white, dark, or milk chocolate, as well as a selection of pastries and treats—scones, muffins, brownies, cookies, bags of M&Ms. Prices are good—a double cappuccino is $3—and the atmosphere all-inclusive. "Our store policy is free cookies for children and a warm welcome to everyone," Stephanie says. On Fridays and Saturdays, "Gabriel's Room" offers free movies on a large-screen TV, complete with popcorn machine and quadraphonic sound.

Archangels Cafe, Briarwood mall, 913–9000. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

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Save money and save the environment at the same time at **Cartridge World,** in the Colonnade shopping center on Eisenhower Parkway. Like Island Ink-Jet inside Briarwood, Cartridge World cleans and refills computer ink cartridges while you wait and remanufactures laser toner cartridges within twenty-four hours, at a savings of up to 50 percent over buying them new. Using more than 150 inks developed by a German supplier, the Australia-based Cartridge World and its 1,000-plus franchisees can clean and refill a brand name ink cartridge an average of six or seven times before it makes its inevitable trip to the landfill.

According to franchisee Eric Dergis, Americans toss over 350 million cartridges a year. For best results, he says, put empty cartridges in a plastic bag, and bring them in as soon as possible. "If they sit empty in your car or office, they will eventually dry out, like an empty paint can," he explains. "When that happens, we can't clean them for refilling."

Cartridge World, 893 West Eisenhower Parkway (the Colonnade), 213–1739. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–noon. Closed Sun.

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Michigan's flagging automotive industry has an upside for other area businesses: as scores of companies fold or downsize, their gently used furniture and cubicles are coming onto the market—so start-ups can furnish an entire office both stylishly and economically.

David Hankinson's **Interiors Quick,** on State Circle south of I-94, sells both new and used office furniture, specializing in expanding businesses and start-ups. Working through a network of wholesalers, Hankinson scours the area to find what customers need. "If I don't have it here in the store, I can go down to one of the warehouses [in metro Detroit] I deal out of, and I can usually find it," he says.

Customers come in or call with all kinds of requests: four blue armless chairs, for example, or a ten-foot conference table. Hankinson puts feelers out and lets them know in a day or two whether he's found what they need. If he doesn't find it right away, he offers to put the item on his "wish list." "I see lots of furniture every day," he says. "Sometimes I happen to come across just the thing someone's looking for."

For customers who'd rather browse, the Interiors Quick showroom is stocked with used as well as new furniture, including couches, chairs, desks, workstations, and cubicles. There's stuff for home offices, too, like the Kathy Ireland line of wood veneer pieces designed to blend in with traditional home decors.

Used chairs start at $25, used desks at $75, and used workstations at $300. New, those same items are stocked starting at $69, $250, and $1,200, respectively. Interiors Quick also leases office furniture; at the end of the lease, companies can buy it outright at nominal cost.

Interiors Quick, 522 State Circle, 213–3488. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Sun. & other hours by appointment.

The Zingerman's Times

©2006 DSE Inc. March 2006 Printed in Ann Arbor Land of a thousand flavors

britain's best cheeses arrive in ann arbor

British cheese tasting at the Deli, March 7 at 7pm. Save your spot, call 734.663.3400.

The food world was rocked 15 years ago when Zingerman's began importing British cheese from Neal's Yard Dairy in London, foodie sources say. Compared to the earlier British cheese imports, these were much more full-flavored, rustic and brazen, and very, very nuanced. The first wave of the British Cheese invasion was in swing.

Today, you need only say "Montgomery's Cheddar" or "Colston Bassett Stilton," and most cheese lovers will beam and blush.

This year, Zingerman's cofounder Ari Weinzweig began the new year by taking a group of Zingerman's tasters for a yearly visit to Neal's Yard Dairy in London. They traveled to farms where the cheeses are made, sampled hundreds and hand-picked wheels to find best tasting cheese imaginable. According to Weinzweig, in order to select the cheeses, they tasted over 25 wheels of Lincolnshire Poacher alone. This cheese is little known in the U.S. and is very much like the beloved English farmhouse cheddars, but made on the other end of England where the soil is different. "These are the best wheels we've ever had. They taste of fruit, nuts with gentle aromatic flavors," Neal's Yard Dairy founder Randolph Hodgson reports.

Zingerman's cheese-scouts are still raving about the Lancashire cheese that's been crafted by the Kirkham family for three generations, the last truly traditionally made cheese anywhere in the world. The cheese hails from the North of England, and at its best, it's referred to as a "floofy mohnstah" by cheesemaker Graham Kirkham–"fluffy" in texture and "monstrously good" in taste.

Zingerman's tasters chose wheels of Lancashire from November 21st, 2005. Their tasting notes report that the wheels are "the quintessential Lancashire. Another 'floofy monstah.' Fresh and fruity with a long, clean finish."

Stop by the Deli to taste British cheeses from this Neal's Yard shipment. Or order a hand-selected Neal's Yard Dairy Box during March and April at zingermans.com or call toll-free, 888.636.8162.

Learn the Secret of Zingerman's Success at the Zingerman's Experience Seminar

March 27-28

Get the inside scoop on just about everything from co-founders Paul Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig. Zingerman's was recently featured in Bo Burlingham's nationally recognized book, *Small Giants.* Visit www.zingtrain.com or call 734.930.1919 for details.

The Secrets of Baking Great Bread

March 19, 4-6pm

Hear a brief history of the Bakehouse from managing partner, Frank Carollo, learn some of the basic science of bread and hand-shape some loaves to take home! $20/per person. Call 734.761.2095 to reserve your spots.

Tasting with Big Buzz: Zingerman's Coffee

March 22, 7pm

Zingerman's Coffee Company, recently chosen as one of the four top craft roasters in the country by *Travel and Leisure* magazine, will be hosting a tasting at the Deli. Roastmaster Allen will be spilling the beans about Zingerman's worldly roster of full-flavored coffees. $15/per person, RSVP to save your seat 734.663.3400.

Zingerman's roadhouse	2501 Jackson Rd. 663.FOOD
Zingerman's roadshow	2501 Jackson Rd. 929.0332
Zingerman's Delicatessen	422 Detroit St. 663.DELI
Zingerman's Catering and Events	422 Detroit St. 663.3400
Zingerman's Bakehouse	3711 Plaza Dr. 761.2095
Zingerman's mail order	422 Detroit St. 888.636.8162
ZingTRAIN	PO Box 1837 930.1919
Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 929.0500
Zingerman's Coffee Company	422 Detroit St. 929.6060

www.Zingermans.com

roadhouse bbq oysters named #1 taste not to miss in '06

Famous food-lover and scholar John T. Edge recently took on the task of naming the "ten best tastes available to American eaters in 2006." Edge urges readers to try, saying: "these are the tastes that haunt me, the dishes that roil my sleep and rumble my stomach. Seek them out. They will haunt you, too."

At the very top of the list, Zingerman's Roadhouse's BBQ Oysters were named number one. Edge writes that "[Roadhouse Chef] Young and company shuck to order, ladle on a spicy mix made with artisanal cider vinegar, and cook the oysters on a wood-fired grill until their lips curl in the manner of Elvis on his '68 comeback tour." Readers are encouraged to visit the Roadhouse for a taste. zingermansroadhouse.com or 734.663.FOOD.

Scottish roots blossom in new local cheese

Zingerman's Creamery Cheesemaker John Loomis is unveiling a new cheese in March that's inspired by the Caboc cheese of Scotland. Zingerman's version is called "Argyle," in keeping with its tradition of naming cheeses after Michigan locales. (Argyle is a small community in Michigan's thumb.) The luscious, dense, fresh, double-cream cheese is rolled in toasted oatmeal and is a classic Scottish breakfast treat. Cheese aficionados are encouraged to stop by the Creamery for a free sample. Sources reveal that visiting the Creamery is easy: The retail shop at 3723 Plaza drive is just a scone's throw from Zingerman's Bakehouse, and open Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm and Sunday 10am-4pm.

cheesemaker leads the whey at free public tour

Full-flavored and fantastically fascinating tours run every Sunday at 12pm. Sources report that reservations are encouraged and arranged by calling 734.929.0500.

13 years of hard work beget authentic irish brown soda bread

Traditional Irish Brown Soda bread is now available in the U.S., thanks to some dedicated bread bakers in Michigan. Zingerman's Bakehouse has been working for 13 years to perfect their Brown Soda bread. This authentic Irish bread is made from limited quantities of special soft wholemeal flour that have been shipped directly from Walton's Mill in County Cork, Ireland. The expert bakers at the Bakehouse have worked and reworked the recipe until they finally had the traditional flavor and texture down. The bakers are making this traditional loaf throughout the month, until the flour runs out. "Eating this bread only on St. Patrick's Day would be like eating baguettes only on Bastille Day," states Frank Carollo, managing partner and head baker at Zingerman's Bakehouse.

This traditional Irish bread is available in limited quantities at Zingerman's Bakehouse, Delicatessen and by Mail Order, at zingermans.com, 888.636.8162. Sources suggest ordering this bread early.

hamentaschen for Purim

Stop by the Deli, Roadshow or Bakehouse and ask for a taste!

Special bread bakes

Olive Farm, March 10 & 11
Alsatian Rye, March 24 & 25

bread of the month
Paesano!
$3.50/loaf
(reg. $5.25/loaf)

roaster's pick

indian coorg from elk hill estate

The first shipment of this year's Indian coffee crop has arrived. Medium-dark roast with a very slight hint of spiciness. Stop by and sample this staff favorite!

Christian's Catering

Spring Cooking Classes

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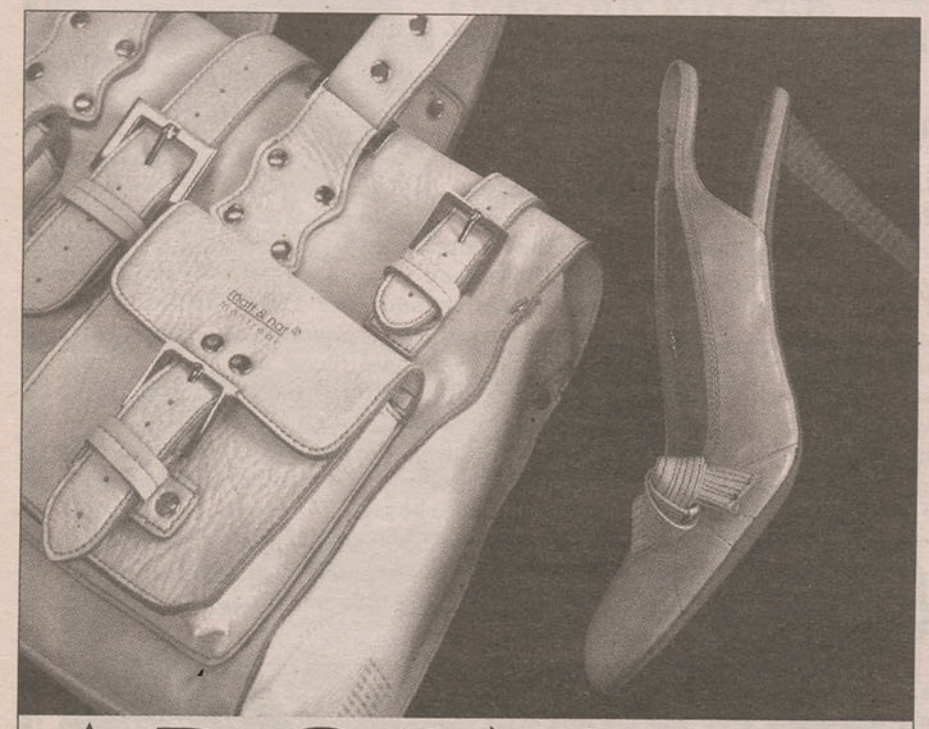

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MARKETPLACE CHANGES *continued*

Not many businesses brag about putting their customers to sleep, but Ken Fils's **Van Winkle Mattress Company** does just that—with the rhyming addendum, "for cheap." Fils and his partner, Don Ellis, are new to the bedding business (their first store in Brighton opened less than a year ago), but Fils says they know enough to say that most brand-name mattress sets are ludicrously overpriced. "Every company in the U.S. gets their springs from the same two spring makers," he says. "So it really just comes down to the upholstery and the materials. We found a good independent bed maker in Toledo. It's good workmanship, and our price is the lowest in three states. Our markup is much, much more modest."

Fils and Ellis have been partners in a medical supply business for twenty years. Fils, father of six, had bought enough beds during that time to have grown disgusted with paying $2,000 for a mattress set—on sale. After one particularly discouraging shopping trip, he came into the office and told his partner they were going into the bedding business. "We've learned a lot over the years selling medical supplies coast to coast, and we knew we could apply that to bedding," he says.

Van Winkle, due to open in March on North Main at Depot Street, stocks mattress sets ranging from a seven-inch mattress with a quilted top on a seven-inch foundation ($379 for a king-size set) to a fourteen-inch mattress whose top two inches are memory foam ($999 for a king-size set). Van Winkle also sells log, cedar, brass, and sleigh bed frames, and other options like daybeds, futons, and bunk beds. The store is small—just 1,800 square feet—so there will be only one of each item on the floor, most likely in a twin or full size.

Surprisingly, Fils's Internet research revealed no other mattress or bedding company named Van Winkle, though there is an Old Rip Van Winkle distillery that makes aged bourbon "with a whisper of wheat." Presumably, enough of that will put you to sleep, too.

Van Winkle Mattress Company, 901 North Main, temporary phone (734) 678–5289. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Sun. noon–3 p.m.

In the Works

Kosmopolitan Deli has been closed for construction since early January while owner Don Kwan expands the beloved Kerrytown lunch counter into the neighboring space vacated by Kav's Kafe. Scheduled to open in early March, the new Kosmo will still serve customer favorites like burgers, hefty egg rolls, and Korean specialties including *bibim bob* and *jap chae*, and may reintroduce discontinued dishes like shrimp tempura and chicken wings. In addition, the eatery will offer espresso drinks and desserts from Big City Bakery.

The deli's die-hard regulars will be happy to hear that there will still be counter as well as table seating, but the nice old wooden bar is being replaced, for sanitary reasons, with one of stainless steel. "To be honest, I don't know what to expect," Kwan writes about the new counter in a group e-mail to his Kosmo fans. "I think it's gonna be where people either love it or hate it."

A chance meeting between local architect Don MacMullan and Shigeru Yamada, who owns two Detroit-area Japanese restaurants, led to MacMullan's being hired to turn the former Chi Chi's on South State into **Cherry Blossom,** a Japanese restaurant. MacMullan says the interior is being gutted to make room for a Japanese-style kitchen and decor, including eight private tatami rooms, where customers sit on the floor around low tables, and a twenty-nine-foot sushi bar. Yamada's existing Cherry Blossom restaurant in Novi has been lauded by Detroit restaurant reviewers, so the Ann Arbor location, expected to open in April or May, should generate a lot of buzz.

Closings

JT and Susanne Terry closed **Phoenix Games** on Fourth Avenue with no warning and little fanfare. Customers simply arrived at the store one day to find the doors locked. The store, which sold fantasy and role-playing board games, lasted less than a year.

European clothing boutique **Moderno** closed in January, a scant two months after it had opened on North Main. Owner Sergei Pesch didn't return calls to his cell phone, but landlord Alfred Krawitz says the store didn't do well, and that Pesch felt in retrospect that the imported Turkish jeans and urban fashions weren't right for the location.

Andre Sandifer closed **Oneline Furniture Design** when his one-year lease ended in early December. Its space next to Rosey's barbershop at Huron and Fourth Avenue is now occupied by Maria and George Papadoulis's custom tailoring business, **Maria's Alterations & Tailoring.**

Margaret Riley is closing her Main Street boutique **Forma Fine Crafts** while she plans her wedding and subsequent move to Rochester, Michigan. The store sold handcrafted jewelry, handmade textiles, and clothing by local designer Chris Triola, among others, as well as ceramics and other art. Riley may continue to sell pieces on-line or from Rochester. She can be reached via e-mail at mannriley@aol.com.

Follow-Up

Ten years ago this month, the Marketplace Changes column reported five retail and restaurant openings. Three of those businesses—**Zanzibar** restaurant, **King's Chosen,** and **Brooklyn Sports Bar & Grill**—have survived in somewhat altered forms. The once-edgy Zanzibar, on State Street, has backed off its original "pantropical bistro" concept a bit to embrace a few more locally familiar dishes as well as exotic ones; King's Chosen is no longer an art gallery, but a full-fledged furniture store in an expanded location farther west on Liberty than its original; and the Brooklyn Sports Bar & Grill on Washtenaw has evolved into a steak and rib joint under the same ownership called Smoke House Blues.

Kowalski Kowality Market at Maple-Miller Plaza didn't survive. Neither did the **House of David** gift shop and gallery inside the Charisma beauty salon on East Liberty.

March 1996 survival rate: 60 percent

Five years ago this month, this column featured nine new businesses. Three of them are still open: restaurant and dance club **Studio 4** on Fourth Avenue, and Briarwood shops **Forever 21** and **Brookstone.**

At Packard and State, the space of **Southside Cafe** is now occupied by Atlanta Bread Company. **Peretti's Pizza,** on South Ashley, has been replaced by a couple of similar tenants—the last one, Salvatore Pizza, lasted just a few months. Also closed: kitchen and bath store **Dreams by Design** on Aprill off Jackson Road; Braun Court Ethiopian restaurant **Mesob;** convenience and cellular phone store **Diag Communications,** on Maple near Liberty, spun off from the Diag Communications on South State, which continues in business; and Briarwood gaming store **Wizards of the Coast.**

March 2001 survival rate: 33 percent

One year ago this month, Marketplace Changes covered seven openings, and all those businesses are around to mark their first anniversaries. They are **V2V,** the newly combined combination of Vintage to Vogue's clothing store with its furniture and home accessories store at Kerrytown; **Smoothie King** on Fourth Avenue; antique shop **Sarah's Attic** in Georgetown Mall; **Wine Etc.** on Zeeb across from Meijer; **Potbelly Sandwich Works** at Arborland; **Carson's Roadhouse** on Plymouth Road; and the **Dollar Tree** location in the former Frank's Nursery & Crafts on Washtenaw.

March 2005 survival rate: 100 percent

—Laura McReynolds

Got a retail or restaurant change? Send e-mail to lauramcrenolds@tds.net or leave voice mail at 769–3175, extension 364.

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Quartet in F Minor, Op. 95, "Serioso"	*Ludwig van Beethoven*
"Leyendas: An Andean Walkabout"	*Gabriela Lena Frank*
Quartet in C Minor, Op. 51, No. 1	*Johannes Brahms*

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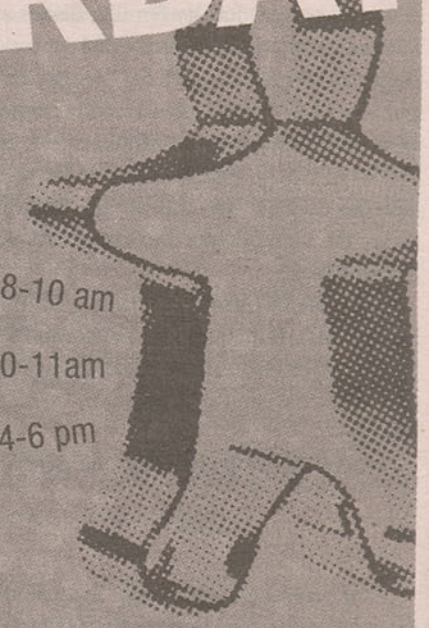

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SATURDAY, MARCH 11
8 PM, MICHIGAN THEATER

BRAHMS	Symphony No. 4
TCHAIKOVSKY	Variations on a Rococo Theme with Yehuda Hanani, cello
DEL AGUILA	Conga-Line in Hell
ERIKA NELSON	dVRG for solo cello & orchestra with Yehuda Hanani *WORLD PREMIERE!*

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MARCH EVENTS

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

By mail: John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

By fax: 769-3375 or 769-4950.

By e-mail: hinch@aaobserver.com

After-hours drop box: right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine.

What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:
The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at **arborweb: www.arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

★ *Denotes no admission charge.*

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

Tom Foss, Mar. 2–4

Janis Ian, Mar. 5

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107 **GALLERY REVIEW**
Fêtes accomplies — Laura Bien

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108 **NIGHTSPOTS SCHEDULE** — John Hinchey

108 **NIGHTSPOTS REVIEW**
The Ragbirds — Alan Goldsmith

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Bus station pedantry — Sally Mitani

65 **LEE ROY PARNELL**
Electric slide — James M. Manheim

69 **SHOSTAKOVICH SYMPHONIES**
Gergiev, the Kirov, and the twentieth century's symphonic giant — James Leonard

75 **BILLY BRAGG**
Love, lust, and socialism — Erick Trickey

79 **CHILDREN OF UGANDA**
Ambassadors of hope — Stephanie Rieke

83 **ROBERT HERSHON**
The city from the side — Keith Taylor

87 **PEGGY SEEGER**
Family tradition — Whit Hill

92 **SAN FRANCISCO JAZZ COLLECTIVE**
Traditionalism revisited — Piotr Michalowski

97 **SARAH DUNANT**
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103 **SCRABBLE AT THE FIREFLY**
Novices and hotshots — Michael Betzold

132 **EVENTS AT A GLANCE**

John Hammond, Mar. 19

Ellis, Mar. 7

1 WEDNESDAY

★"The Bible in Its Time, Part XIII": Jewish Community Center. *Every Wednesday, February 1–March 22.* Lecture series by U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies visiting scholar Lisbeth Fried. *10:30 a.m.–noon, JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★Wednesday Winter Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Wednesday.* The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *11 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 994–5908 & 663–4498 (today's ride), 913–9851 (general information).*

★"Storytime with Mr. James": Arborland Borders. *March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29.* Borders staffer "Mr. James" reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Also, raffle. Today: Mary Ann Hoberman's ***Seven Silly Eaters*** and Petr Horacek's ***Silly Suzy Goose.*** Also this month: Margaret Baker's ***When I Was a Girl I Dreamed*** and Lynne Cheney's ***A Is for Abigail*** (March 8), H. A. Rey's ***Curious George Goes to the Hospital*** and David Shannon's ***A Bad Case of Stripes*** (March 15), Laura Numeroff's ***Chimps Don't Wear Glasses*** and Adrienne Geoghegan's ***Dogs Don't Wear Glasses*** (March 22), and Bruce Whatley's ***Wait! No Paint!*** and Karen Beaumont's ***I Ain't Gonna Paint No More*** (March 29). *11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449–9394.*

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. *Every Wednesday.* Today: Kempf House curator Carol Mull discusses **"The Underground Railroad, Revisited."** Also this month: Arab American Museum (Dearborn) research curator Devon Aktomon discusses **"Preserving Our Heritage"** (March 8), Saline High School English and history teacher Susan Nenadic discusses **"Working Women of Washtenaw County, 1837–1914"** (March 15), Washtenaw County Historical Society Museum on Main Street curator Alice Cerniglia discusses **"The Sewing Arts"** (March 22), and local postal history buff Cary Johnson discusses **"Territorial Ann Arbor Postal History"** (March 29). *Noon–1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $2 (Kempf House members, $1). 994–4898.*

★Carillon Concert: U-M School of Music. *Every weekday.* All invited to listen to a carillonist play the heaviest musical instrument in Washtenaw County, Burton Tower's set of 55 English bells, the largest of which weighs 12 tons. *Noon–1 p.m., Burton Tower, 881 North University. Free. 764–0583.*

★Chess: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. *Every Wednesday.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★"Space Exploration!": U-M Exhibit Museum. *February 27–March 3.* A variety of family-oriented drop-in activities. Visitors can view a NASA lunar sample disk, view lunar landing videos, explore the nature of light through a series of self-serve demos, test small samples of Martian soil, learn about how space shuttle thermal tiles protect against heat, view actual and sci-fi space ship models, and make a space ship, Saturn, or full-moon hat. *1–4 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★Carillon Concert: U-M School of Music. *Every weekday.* All invited to peek in the playing room while a carillonist plays Lurie Tower's prized set of 60 Dutch bells, which produce a bright, sparkling sound—even the 6-ton leviathan—characteristic of Holland's world-famous carillons. *1:30–2 p.m., Lurie Tower, 1230 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★"Judo, Jujitsu, & Self-Defense": A.C.E. Academy of Martial Arts. *Every Monday through Thursday.* Local sensei Dan Powers offers a fun, easy introduction to these martial arts and self-defense skills. Wear a *gi* (simple white robe) or loose-fitting or gym clothes. *4 p.m. (kids) & 6 p.m. (adults), A.C.E. Academy of Martial Arts, 749 Airport Blvd., suite 3. Free. 645–7069.*

★Scrabble: The Firefly Club. *Every Wednesday. See review, p. 103.* All invited to join Firefly owner Susan Chastain and other local Scrabble enthusiasts to play this popular word game. Bring a board and tiles, if you have them. *5–8 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Free. 665–9090.*

Wine Tasting: Paesano's Restaurant. *Every Wednesday.* A chance to sample 5 different Italian wines each week, in an informal and friendly setting, with a selection of appetizers. *6–7 p.m., Paesano's, 3411 Washtenaw. Space limited; reservations recommended. $20. 971–0484.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wednesday.* Each 2–person team plays 2 or 3 hands against a dozen or so other pairs during the evening. Players at all levels welcome. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early to arrange for one. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills Clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) $3 per person. 971–7530.*

★"Acupuncture: A Bridge Between Ancient and Modern Worlds": People's Food Co-op. Talk by local acupuncturist Gary Merel. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

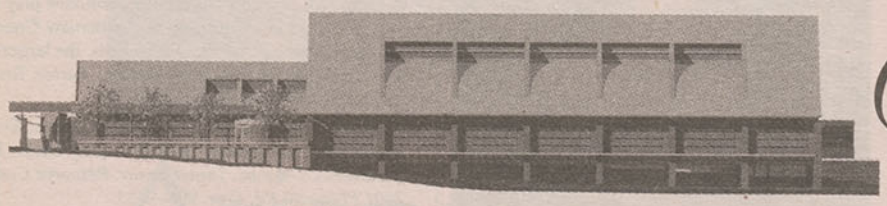
★Sherrilyn Kenyon: Borders Express. This writer signs copies of her new novel, ***Unleash the Night.*** *7–9 p.m., Borders Express, Briarwood mall. Free. 669–0785.*

★"The Art of the 2006 Ann Arbor Women Artists Exhibition": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by WSU art professor Stanley Rosenthal, a juror in this annual exhibit (see Galleries). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★Sarah Dunant: Nicola's Books. *See review, p. 97.* This novelist reads from ***In the Company of the Courtesan,*** her new historical novel, set in Renaissance Venice, about the adventures of a resourceful Italian courtesan and her sidekick dwarf. A *Booklist* critic called Dunant "the kind of writer a reader will follow anywhere, trusting completely in her ability both to bring a time and place to life and to tell an enthralling story." Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Kevin Baker: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This best-selling historical novelist from New York City reads from ***Strivers Row,*** his new novel, set against the backdrop of the 1943 Harlem race riots, about the chance encounter between the young Malcolm X, a quick-witted, reckless teenager with a strong sense of justice, and a young Harlem minister who is struggling with his own demons as the fair-skinned leader

March 2006 EVENTS
Ann Arbor District Library



Opening Week Celebration

PITTSFIELD BRANCH 2359 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor

Monday THE BOYCHOIR
Mar 20 of ANN ARBOR
7:00 - 8:00 pm **OPENING DAY**

Tuesday BOOGIE WOOGIE
Mar 21 BABIES **Broadway Review**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Wednesday MR. B
Mar 22 **Piano Tunes & Tales**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Thursday TUMBAO
Mar 23 **Latin Jazz**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

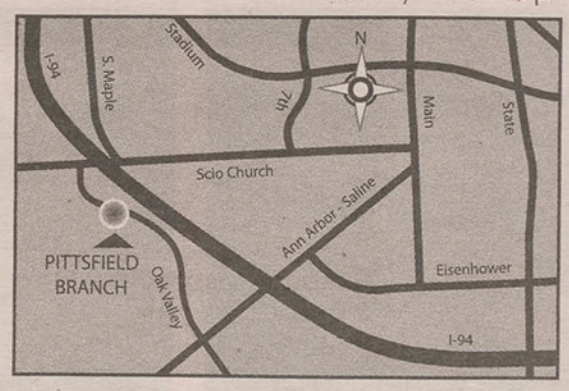
Friday TROUPE TA'AMULLAT
Mar 24 **Multicultural Dance**
7:30 - 8:30 pm

Saturday JONATHAN PARK
Mar 25 **Juggling & Comedy**
2:00 - 3:00 pm

Sunday LaRON WILLIAMS
Mar 26 **Storytelling for all Ages**
2:00 - 3:00 pm

Pittsfield Branch Hours:

Monday	10 am - 9 pm
Tuesday-Friday	9 am - 9 pm
Saturday	9 am - 6 pm
Sunday	noon - 6 pm



For more information call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org

1 WEDNESDAY *continued*

of one of Harlem's greatest churches. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council.** *Every Wednesday.* Using special postures, participants enter a meditative state to the beat of a shaman's drum and discuss their experiences afterward. *7:30 p.m., Inter-Cooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill (in the carriage house behind the co-op buildings). Free. 699–8101.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Wednesday.* Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids ages 5–8. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Romance Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Flirting with Disaster,*** Sherryl Woods's novel about the romance between a Charleston socialite art gallery owner with a rebellious streak and a historic renovator whose bad-boy loner persona masks a heart of gold. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** *Every Wednesday.* All invited to discuss one of Rudolf Steiner's basic anthroposophical books, *Theosophy. 8–9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 485–3764.*

★**"Mohammed Atta and the Venice Flying Circus": The Planet.** Screening of Daniel Hopsicker's 2002 documentary featuring interviews of witnesses who had spotted 9/11 hijacker Mohammed Atta and his cohorts in and around Venice, Florida, just before the attacks. *8 p.m., The Planet, 1112½ South University. Free. 994–4545.*

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. *Every Wednesday-Sunday, January 19–March 18. See review, p. 61.* Guy Sanville directs local actors in Purple Rose founder and movie actor Jeff Daniels's funny, poignant autobiographical drama about a young actor who follows his dreams to the big city, where he comes face to face with his hero and must learn to negotiate the tangled relationship between the dreams of youth and the wisdom of age. Cast: Randall Godwin, Patrick Michael Kenney, Grant R. Krause. *8 p.m., Garage Theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $25 (Wed. & Thurs.), $30 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & $35 (Fri. & Sat. eves.) in advance and at the door. 433–ROSE.*

"Citizen Improv": Improv Inferno. *Every Wednesday.* Local comedians invent scenes based on stories told by audience members. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. $5. 214–7080.*

"Full Frontal Comedy": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Wednesday except March 8.* Performances by 8 aspiring stand-up comics and by established area pros coming out to work on new material. The show concludes with a performance by the local sketch comedy troupe **Monkey Rampant Sketch Company.** Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

Swing Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wednesday.* Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner necessary. Wear casual clothes and shoes that will stay on your feet while you're dancing. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M are not admitted to the Union after 9 p.m., but those who arrive before 9 p.m. may remain through the end of the evening. *9:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room (Mar. 1, 8, 15, & 22) & U-Club (Mar. 29). $5. 763–5750.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "The World's Fastest Indian" (Roger Donaldson, 2005). Road movie about a crusty codger and his 1920 motorcycle that's based on the life of racer Burt Munro. Anthony Hopkins, Christopher Lawford, Bruce Greenwood. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"The White Countess"** (James Ivory, 2005). *March 1 & 2.* A widowed countess in late 30s Shanghai develops a passion for a dashing club owner. Ralph Fiennes, Natasha Richardson. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

2 THURSDAY

★**Collie Dog Show: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds.** *March 2–5.* Around 160 collies from all over the country compete, in rally and obedience trials, in one of the largest single-breed shows in the country. Dog supplies. Food concessions. *Morning &*

Niamh Parsons performs traditional Irish ballads at the Ark Mar. 6.

afternoon time TBA (Mar. 2 & 3), 9 a.m.–afternoon (Mar. 4), 8 a.m.–afternoon (Mar. 5), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free admission. (419) 836–2612.

★**Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thursday.* A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with **"Fitness Fun,"** a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. At 11 a.m. (1 p.m. on March 2 & 16), an educational or cultural presentation. Today: Heidi Vizelberg describes her **"Katrina Tale from New Orleans to Ann Arbor."** Also this month: Craig Pollack and Phyllis and David Herzig discuss their travel adventures in a talk titled **"Alaska Bound!"** (March 9), showing of a film TBA from the **Gelman Jewish Heritage Video Collection** (March 16), U-M anthropology professor Eva Darvas on **"The Past in the Present: Problematic Relationships in a Hungarian Village"** (March 23), and *Washtenaw Jewish News* editor and photographer Susie Ayer presents a photo tour of her recent trip to **"Peru"** (March 30). Also, at noon, a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors). Also, at 1 p.m. (11 a.m. on March 2 & 16) a **Current Events** discussion group and at 2:15 p.m. a meeting of the **Senior Literary Group**, a book discussion group led by U-M Dearborn English professor emeritus Sidney Warschausky. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**Children's Hour: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** *March 2 & 16.* Shaman Drum staff read some picture books for kids ages 2–6. *11 a.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Thursday.* Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids ages 2–5. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Thursday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *Noon–4 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $4 (nonresidents, $5). 769–5911.*

★**Game Day: Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades 2 & up invited to bring a friend or parent to play **Jenga,** a popular game whose object is to remove one block at a time from a tower without toppling it. Other board games available. *2–4 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327–4200.*

"Discover the World of Plants": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. *Every Thursday.* Kids ages 7–12 (accompanied by an adult) are invited to explore a tropical rain forest and a desert, follow a scavenger hunt, and create a small take-home terrarium. *4–5:30 p.m. & 6–7:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $8 (members, $7.50) per child. Preregistration required. 998–7061.*

★**ASL Storytelling: Ann Arbor Deaf Club.** *March 2 & 16.* All invited to tell or observe stories told in American Sign Language. *6–7:30 p.m., Washtenaw County Library Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw. Free. 971–6059.*

★**"Women Running Fit": Two Dogs Running.** *Every Thursday.* All women invited to run a different course, 2–6 miles, each week. Directed by a certified running coach. Maps provided. Runners who accumulate 50 miles receive a T-shirt from Running Fit. Men also invited to run. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 369–2492, 569–5016.*

★**Ann Arbor FrontRunners.** *Every Tuesday & Thursday.* Gay, lesbian, and straight runners invited to choose a distance of 3–5 miles to run with FrontRunners members. *6:30 p.m., meet at Furstenberg Park, off Fuller Rd. across from Huron High School. Free. 741–1763.*

ACBL Bridge: Women's City Club. *Every Thursday.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $5. 761–6691.*

★**"Art in the Rock Hobby": Huron Hills Lapidary Society.** Screening of this video about collecting rocks. Also, a show-and-tell; bring rocks. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 434–8517.*

★**Guided Tours: U-M Museum of Art.** *March 2, 16, & 23.* Docent-guided tours of the exhibits ***Ando Hiroshige's 53 Stages of the Tokaido*** (March 2 & 16) and ***Silk Road to Clipper Ship: Trade, Changing Markets, and East Asian Ceramics*** (March 23). *7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"Only a Man": Ann Arbor District Library.** Three local women storytellers—AADL director **Josie Parker,** former National Storyteller of the Year **Laura Pershin Raynor,** and AADL youth services manager **Karrie Waarala**—team up to present a program of funny, touching poems and stories exploring women's views of men. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Prescribed Burn Public Meeting: Ann Arbor Parks Department Natural Area Preservation Division.** A chance to find out about the ecological burns the city conducts in city parks on weekdays throughout the spring and fall. The city holds a training session (preregistration required) at noon on March 8 for volunteers to help with the burns. *7:30–9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 996–3266.*

★**Ann Arbor Smocking Group.** Informal "sit 'n' stitch gathering for those interested in the English art of embroidery known as smocking and in heirloom sewing. All invited. *7:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–7867.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Thursday.* Instruction for intermediate-level dancers in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver (off Nixon). $4. 769–4324, 426–0241.*

★**"Trek to Everest Base Camp and Run (or Walk) the Everest Marathon": Of Global Interest.** Local adventure tour company owner Heather O'Neal presents a multimedia slide show about traveling in Nepal. *8 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

★**Ann Arbor Ski Club.** *March 2 & 16.* All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Tonight's meeting features refreshments. Also this month: Wear green and bring an hors d'oeuvre or dessert for a **"St. Patrick's Day Party"** (March 16). Newcomers welcome. Must be 21 or older. *8–11 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. Free (Mar. 2), $5 (Mar. 16). 761–3419.*

★**Renaissance Dances: Bedlam.** *Every Thursday.* Beginning to experienced dancers invited to try 15th- and 16th-century English country dances, Italian dances, bransles, pavanes, almans, and more. Instruction provided. No partner needed. Wear comfy clothes and shoes. *8–11 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971–1809.*

Campus Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Contra dances with live music and callers TBA. All dances taught. Wear sneakers and comfortable, loose-fitting clothes. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M are not admitted to the Union after 9 p.m., but those who arrive before 9 p.m. may remain through the end of the evening. *8–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. $5. 645–5372.*

★**Local Music Night: Dreamland Theater.** Triple bill. The Ferndale band **Barn** plays languid, reflective rock led by Samantha Linn's mournful, droopy vocals, **Sugarspell** plays wandering folk-pop over a twangy, scratchy guitar, and Detroit singer-songwriter **Tovio Roberts** plays country-folk that ranges from abrasive to reflective. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

"A Thousand Clowns": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. *March 2–5.* Thom Johnson directs local actors in Herb Gardner's classic comedy about an unemployed children's TV writer who is bringing up his 12-year-old nephew in laissez-faire slovenliness. When 2 social workers threaten to remove the child if he doesn't shape up fast, he is faced with the dilemma of losing the boy or losing the boy's respect by betraying his own iconoclastic spirit. Cast: Caroline Hippler, Kent Klausner, Jimmy Arnold, Neal Kelley, Jon Elliott, and Scott Bartz. *8 p.m., Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $20 (students & seniors, $17; Thursday, $13) in advance and at the door. 971–0605.*

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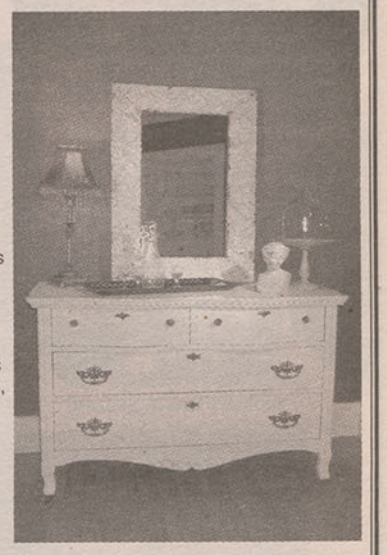

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DESSANGE PARIS

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museum of art

Lecture-Demonstration
Classical Cambodian Dance
Sunday, March 19, 3 pm

UMMA is proud to host Cambodian dance master Chamroeun Yin for a lecture-demonstration. Mr. Yin studied dance with members of the royal court ensemble and toured the United States with the Khmer Classical Dance Troupe to great acclaim.

Cosponsored by the UM Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Center for World Performance Studies, and the 19th Annual MLK Symposium Planning Committee and the Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives.

Interview with Artist Kenro Izu
Sunday, March 26, 3 pm

Kenro Izu will speak about the creative and humanitarian aspects of his photography. Izu founded the non-profit organization Friends Without a Border, which built and sustains the Angkor Hospital for Children in Siem Reap, Cambodia. His hauntingly beautiful platinum prints of ancient Cambodian temples are on view in the current exhibition *Passage to Angkor.*

Cosponsored by UM Center for Southeast Asian Studies and the 19th Annual MLK Symposium Planning Committee and the Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives.

Kenro Izu (b. 1949) *Angkor #79, Bayon,* 1994, platinum print, Copyright Kenro Izu, Courtesy of Friends Without A Border

The University of Michigan **Museum of Art**
525 South State Street, Ann Arbor

734.763.UMMA www.umma.umich.edu

Tuesday-Saturday 10-5; Thursday 10-9;
Sunday 12-5; Monday closed

umma

2 THURSDAY *continued*

"Night Blooming": BlackBag Productions. *February 10, 11, 16–19. & 23–26 and March 2–4.* Dana Sutton directs local playwright Joseph Zettelmaier's moving portrait of 3 generations in the life of a contemporary Native American family. When her daughter is diagnosed with a terminal illness, Lily is forced to make tough choices. Cast: Shannon Ferrante, Aphrodite Nikolovski, and Sara Switanowski. *8 p.m., Blackbird Theater, 1600 Pauline (at Kay Pkwy. east of Stadium). Tickets $18 (seniors $12, students $8) in advance and at the door. 332–3848.*

"Tartuffe": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. *February 23–26 & March 2–5.* Melanie Wilson directs local actors in Moliere's savagely funny satire about a salacious scoundrel who masquerades as a holy man in order to seduce a man's daughter and con him out of his house to boot. When the man's wife tricks Tartuffe into seducing her, the tables start to turn. Bitterly opposed in its day by the Catholic Church, the play was banned twice, but the word *tartuffe* has become a French word for a pious hypocrite. Cast: James Ingagiola, Wendy Wright, Jeff McFadyen, and Aral Gribble. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $18 (students & seniors, $15) in advance or at the door. 214–6600.*

"Moonglow": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thursday through Sunday, January 26–March 5.* Jim Posante directs Royal Oak playwright Kim Carney's comic drama about a tough-as-nails spitfire being moved into an assisted living facility. Determined not to go quietly, she raises a ruckus and changes the way her daughter views life. Cast: Carmen Decker, Loren Bass, Kelly Pino, Steve O'Brien, Nora Bonner, Casaundra Freeman, and Will Young. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $24.50 (Thurs. & Sun.), $29.50 (Fri.), and $32.50 (Sat.). Discounts available for seniors. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. Half-price student rush tickets available 1 hour before showtime. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament": Improv Inferno. *Every Thursday.* Sixteen improv teams square off in a month-long single-elimination tournament. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. $5. 214–7080.*

Tom Foss: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 2–4.* Ann Arbor debut of this veteran stand-up comic, an energetic, animated performer who peppers his audience with a barrage of snappy jokes about his family, his West Virginia home, and the world around him. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Morgan Heritage: The Blind Pig. Influential R&B-inflected Jamaican reggae quintet composed of 5 sons of the renowned dancehall reggae singer Denroy Morgan. Opening act is **Panic & the Rebels,** a New York City-based reggae-rock band. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, $25 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "White Countess" (James Ivory, 2005). See 1 Wednesday. Mich., times TBA.

3 FRIDAY

★"Chelsea Winter Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Friday.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 34–45 miles, to either Dexter or the Waterloo Recreation Area. *9 a.m., meet at Aberdeen Bike & Fitness, 1175 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. (517) 851–8323 & (517) 285–6830 (today's ride), 913–9851 (general information).*

★"Storytime with Mr. James": Arborland Borders. *March 3, 10, 17, & 24.* Borders staffer "Mr. James" reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Also, raffle. *11 a.m., Borders computer section, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449–9394.*

"Holy Cow, Batman: A New Brand of Comic Book": IT Zone Creativity Forum. Jan Nichols of Market Arts hosts a conversation with local writer **Jim Ottaviani,** the author of 5 acclaimed graphic novels about science and scientists. *Noon–1:15 p.m., IT Zone, 330 E. Liberty. $5 (members, free). Preregistration requested at annarboritzone.org. 615–9310.*

★Lenten Recital Series: American Guild of Organists. *Every Friday through March 31.* Noontime concerts by professional and student organists. Today: First Presbyterian (Flint) organist Brenda Portman and Calvin College student organist Gavin Craig. *12:15 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free. 662–4466.*

★Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Friday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play a variety of styles of bingo. *1–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★Bridge: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. *Every Monday & Friday.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

27th Annual Lenten Fish Fry: Old St. Patrick's Church. *Every Friday, March 3–April 7.* Fried Alaskan pollack, choice of potato, salad bar, and beverage. Desserts available for a nominal additional charge. Beer & wine available for donation. Be prepared to stand in line, but the food is worth the wait. *4:30–8 p.m., Old St. Pat's parish hall, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church (3 miles north of Ann Arbor). $7 (seniors, $6.50; children 5–11, $5.50; children 4 & under, free). 662–8141.*

★"Revolutions in Robotics": 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads. Members of the Ypsilanti High School Alpha Omega Robotics Team 470 demonstrate some of their robots and discuss national high-school robotics competitions, like the regional competition held at EMU beginning March 9 (see listing). In conjunction with 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 996–1332.*

CCHA Playoffs: U-M Ice Hockey. *March 3, 4, & (if necessary) 5.* The U-M team opens its quest for the CCHA championship with a best-of-three series against an opponent TBA. If it wins this series, the U-M hosts a 2nd round series, March 10–12. *7 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

★"The Heirs to the Kingdom": Northside Community Church. All invited to join a reading of this Dorothy Sayers play, one of 12 she wrote depicting the life of Christ. Script provided. *7 p.m., Northside Presbyterian/St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. 663–5503.*

Buckwheat Zydeco: EMU Convocation Center. A Mardi Gras celebration with a zydeco band led by Stanley Dural, a celebrated zydeco accordionist who, legend has it, took up the instrument in response to a challenge from the late zydeco king Clifton Chenier, in whose band Dural was playing keyboards. Zydeco, if you've never heard it, is a joyous Creole music with a distinctive zigzag beat, and Dural's brand of it has a very strong blues bias, with a large dose of New Orleans R&B. Proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity's Hurricane Katrina relief effort. *7 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center and at the door. 487–2282.*

The Giant Signal Processing Chain: Dreamland Theater. Participants take turns broadcasting a sound from an audio source to a device that can manipulate sound, then rebroadcasting the new sound to another receiving device and repeating the process as long as possible. *7:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Donation. 657–2337.*

★First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. JCS students lead a secular Shabbat celebration that includes candle lighting, singing, and other Jewish rituals. Bring a dessert to pass. All invited. *7:30 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

"Michelangelo": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. *March 3 & 4.* English art historian David Lowe discusses **"Michelangelo's Sculptures"** (March 3) and **"The Painting of the Sistine Chapel"** (March 4). *7:30 p.m. (Mar. 3) & 9:30 a.m. (Mar. 4), Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. $20 ($30 for both lectures). Preregistration requested. 971–6217.*

Common: Live Nation. Highly influential underground hip-hop MC whose jazz-inflected rapping features sophisticated syncopation and intelligent, nimbly performed rhymes directed at various politically charged topics. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $31 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

★Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. *March 3, 17, & 31.* All invited to join this ongoing study group to discuss Rudolf Steiner's lecture cycle *According to Luke.* Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. *8–9:30 p.m., 33 Ridgeway East, 1 block east of the Arb entrance on Geddes. Free. 662–6398.*

plays

Guest Artist
Bus station pedantry

It's tempting to see *Guest Artist*, written by Jeff Daniels and playing at the Purple Rose through Saturday, March 18, as something Daniels wrote on the set of *The Squid and the Whale*, in a method-actorish obsession with the character he played in that film. In his recent Golden Globe–nominated role, he plays Bernard Berkman, a pompous academic novelist, who has gradually slid from critical and popular success to no success and is reduced to the pedant's cheapest trick. Finding a captive audience in his son, he ceaselessly lectures the nerdish teenager on the nature of art and anything else that comes to mind.

That icky Oedipal dynamic is at the center of *Guest Artist* too. A washed-up Manhattan playwright named Joseph Harris, who has been commissioned—for some reason—by Steubenville, Ohio, to write a play, shows up without the play. But he holds a young local playwright in thrall for a night, drunkenly pontificating on the function of art in a world that doesn't properly appreciate it.

Played by Grant R. Krause, Harris bears an uncanny physical resemblance to Jeff Daniels as Bernard Berkman, if you can imagine Berkman a few decades more aged and embittered, so perhaps I can be forgiven for belaboring the similarities in the two roles. The press packet that accompanied my ticket described this play as Daniels's "most autobiographical work yet." After trying and failing to see Daniels as a washed-up alcoholic reduced to giving impromptu lectures in small-town bus stations, this is the autobiographical connection I drew: that Daniels couldn't let Berkman—a terrific and complex role—go, so he wrote him a second act.

The problem with *Guest Artist* is that Joseph Harris, or Bernard Berkman, or whoever he is, is so irritating that it's hard to listen to anything he says even if he's right. He's a man in love with his own words and his own tragic sensitivities, and in love with the effect he has on young, impressionable artists. His pedantic hectoring of an almost unbelievably naive man comes off as a kind of artistic pederasty.

Far fresher and more enjoyable is the "ticket man" (Randall Godwin), who sits behind the cage of the wonderful art deco bus station (Bartley H. Bauer's set design), braying all his lines into the PA—official boarding announcements, unofficial asides about his wife, or sub rosa liquor transactions, all given the same weighty delivery, oblivious to the life-or-death debate on the Nature of Art going on ten feet away from him. This is the memorable character, not Harris. He's also the character who wasn't invented by the playwright alone but by the alchemy of ensemble theater, something Harris, for all his impassioned speechifying about the meaning of theater, seems never to have heard of. Daniels, who has a full-time career as an actor and a part-time career as a philanthropist and administrator, is also quite a good and serious playwright, but this isn't one of his more memorable contributions.

—Sally Mitani

Guest Artist

a World Premiere by
Jeff Daniels

Directed by
Guy Sanville

Now playing through March 18, 2006

Underwritten by DaimlerChrysler Corporation Fund
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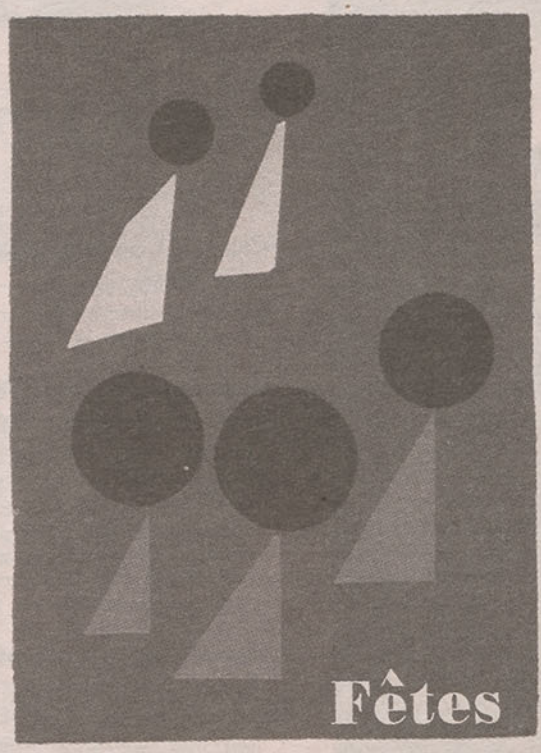
137 Park Street, Chelsea, MI
Box Office: (734) 433-ROSE (7673)
www.purplerosetheatre.org

Grant R. Krause, Randall Godwin and Patrick Michael Kenney. Photo by Danna Segrest



Alexander Calder and Jacques Prévert

ARTISTS' BOOKS EXHIBITION
March 6–April 7, 2006
Thursdays & Fridays, 12:00–8:00 pm
and by appointment

Opening Reception
Thursday, March 9, 4:30–6:30

Lecture
Tuesday, March 7, 4:00
Elizabeth Hutton Turner
The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC
Calder and the Transatlantique

Film Screenings (subtitled)
Tuesday, March 28, 4:00
Le Crime de Monsieur Lange (1935)
Directed by Jean Renoir
Screenplay by Jacques Prévert
Introduced by Richard Abel
UM Screen Arts and Cultures

Tuesday, April 4, 4:00
Les Enfants du Paradis (1945)
Directed by Marcel Carné
Screenplay by Jacques Prévert

All events free, open to the public

Institute for the Humanities
University of Michigan
0520 Rackham, 915 E Washington
Ann Arbor, 734 936-3518
humin@umich.edu
www.lsa.umich.edu/humin

"25th Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. *March 3–5.* A weekend of nonstop folk dancing to live music, with around 400 people expected to dance or just listen to the many fine musicians. *Evening program in the gym:* Glen Morningstar calls **contras** to music by Bruce Sagan and Veselba (8 p.m.). Rick Mohr calls **no-walk-through contras** to music by Crowfoot (10:05 p.m.). *Evening program in the cafeteria:* Erna-Lynne Bogue calls **English dances** (8–9:45 p.m.) and **advanced English dances** (10:05–11:30 p.m.) to music by Childgrove. Wear clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing (no dancing in street shoes allowed). *8 p.m.–1 a.m., Scarlett Middle School gym, 3300 Lorraine (off Platt south of Packard). $18 (Mar. 3), $16 (Mar. 4 afternoon), $20 (Mar. 4 evening), $14 (Mar. 5) at the door only. Weekend pass $55 (members, $50) in advance only. 677–0212.*

Darden Smith: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Highly regarded singer-songwriter from Austin, Texas, whose songs are known for their emotional intimacy and warmth. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

"19th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. *March 3–5.* Storytelling continues to enjoy a renaissance as a form of popular entertainment, and the Ark's annual festival features performances by top-notch storytellers from around the country and the state. Tonight's headliner is **Alice McGill**, a veteran storyteller-actress from Maryland who specializes in African and African American songs and stories. Opening acts: **Susan Strauss** is a storyteller from Oregon whose repertoire draws on Native American coyote tales and other mythological tales about animals, plants, and places. **Owen McBride** is a popular Irish-born Canadian folksinger who performs Irish ballads and bawdy songs, peppering his performances with lots of outrageous jokes and scurrilous stories. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 (evening concerts) & $10 (children's concert) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"A Thousand Clowns": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Tartuffe": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Moonglow": Performance Network Professional Season. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Night Blooming": BlackBag Productions. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. *Every Friday & Saturday.* Detroit's new **Motoprism** theater company performs short plays, both comic and serious, based on cast members' personal lives. Alcohol is served; all Friday shows are nonsmoking. *8 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. $10. 214–7080.*

Tom Foss: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. *Every Friday & Saturday.* Six comics compete in silly improv games, a la *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* Each comic competes on behalf of 6 audience members for such fabulous prizes as a mealtime supply of Rice-a-Roni. Ages 18 & older admitted. Alcohol is served; all Friday shows are nonsmoking. *10 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance and at the door. 214–7080.*

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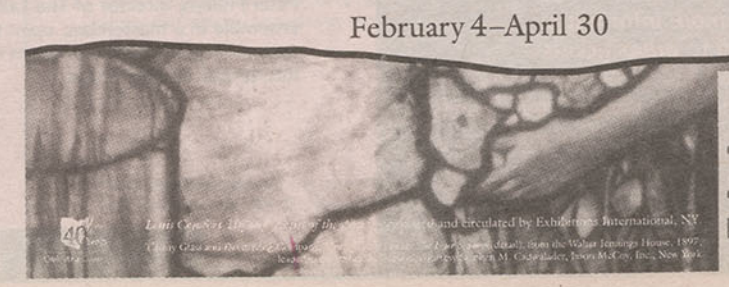
February 4–April 30


Louis Comfort Tiffany, Wisteria, 1900. Leaded glass and bronze, 68 x 42 in. Organized and circulated by Exhibitions International, NY. Photo: Courtesy of Christie's Images, Ltd.

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"Point From Which Creation Begins: The Black Artists' Group of St. Louis" by Benjamin Looker

"3500 Years of Jewelry Design" by Larry Newhouse

All Rivers At Once

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
Ann Arbor, Michigan

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west of US-23 at Exit 39

March 2006 Events

Concert: **Concordia University Choir ✦**

Sunday, March 12 • 4 p.m. • Chapel of the Holy Trinity

Under the direction of Brian Altevogt the choir will perform works by Morley, Taverner, Whitacre, Lassus, Distler, and Standford.

Books & Coffee: **"Point From Which Creation Begins: The Black Artists' Group of St. Louis" by Benjamin Looker ✦**

Discussion led by Benjamin Looker
Tuesday, March 14 • 2 p.m. • Riverside Conference Room

From 1968 to 1972, St. Louis was home to the Black Artists' Group (BAG), a seminal arts collective that nurtured African American experimentalists involved with theatre, visual arts, dance, poetry, and jazz. By fusing social concern and artistic innovation, the group significantly reshaped St. Louis and, by extension, the American arts landscape.

Lecture: **3500 Years of Jewelry Design ✦**

Lecture by Larry Newhouse
Thursday, March 16 • 7:30 p.m. • Riverside Conference Room

Larry Newhouse, program director of the Ford Gallery at Eastern Michigan University, will present an overview of jewelry design from the early Egyptians to the modern day contemporary designs of the 21st century.

Lecture: **Art, Life & New York City: The Art Capital of the World? ✦**

Slide lecture by Serdar Arat
Thursday, March 23 • 7:30 p.m. • Riverside Conference Room

This slide lecture will focus on art and life in New York City and explore the myth and reality of "The Art Capital of the World" through the work of several prominent artists, new developments in art and technology, galleries and museums, and the overall impact of the New York art world on artists and the public alike.

Concert: **All Rivers At Once**

Sunday, March 26 • 4 p.m. • Chapel of the Holy Trinity
Tickets: $5, free for students with ID
To charge by phone call 734.995.4612 or order online at www.cuaa.edu

All Rivers at Once presents an evening of spiritual art music—music for reflection, for meditation, for introspection. The group was founded in 2002 by Joshua Penman and Marcin Bela and is dedicated to performing spiritual music by contemporary composers. The group's members are sought after emerging composers and performers, enjoying national and international careers.

Lecture: **Masterclass with Peter Phillips and Vox Early Music Ensemble**

Thursday, March 30 • 11:30 a.m. • Chapel of the Holy Trinity
$5 at the door

Peter Phillips, director of The Tallis Scholars will direct Vox Early Music Ensemble in a masterclass, open to the public. Don't miss this unique opportunity to see Vox perform under the guidance of a world-class interpreter of early music.

✦ *Denotes free events*

3 FRIDAY *continued*

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. *Every Friday & Saturday.* 45 minutes of improv comedy by local comics TBA. Alcohol is served; all Friday shows are nonsmoking. *Midnight, Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. $5. 214–7080.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Night Watch" (Timur Bekmambetov, 2005). *March 3–9.* Stylish, gory Russian horror-fantasy, set in Moscow and combining elements of *Blade Runner, The Matrix,* and *Highlander,* about the possible disruption of an uneasy truce between good and evil. Russian, subtitles. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

4 SATURDAY

"Running Fit 501": Two Dogs Running. *Every Saturday.* Runners of all abilities invited to run a different course, of varying distances, each week. Directed by a certified running coach. Maps provided. *8 a.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. $5. 569–5016.*

★Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Saturday.* 20–mile ride (or longer) at a pace and to a destination chosen by the assembled riders. *Note*: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, change for a phone call, and snacks. *10 a.m. & 1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 913–9851.*

★Tour: Zingerman's Bakehouse. *Every Saturday.* A chance to view artisanal bread and pastry baking and get a free treat. *10 a.m., Zingerman's Bakehouse, 3711 Plaza Dr. Free. 761–2095.*

★"Go Solar Ann Arbor!": Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association. GLREA executive director Jennifer Alvarado and S.U.R. Energy Systems owner John Wakeman discuss the costs and benefits of renewable energy and how to save money by buying business or home systems jointly with others. *10–11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. (800) 434–9788.*

"Architecture of Nature": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Kids 7–12 accompanied by a parent can examine the forms found in the natural world and build a model conservatory to take home. *10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. or 1–3:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $6 (members, $5). Preregistration recommended. 998–7061.*

"Sciencepalooza": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. *March 4 & 5.* This popular monthly exhibit in the concourse area features an array of attended hands-on activity tables. This month's topic: **"Kids Invent!"** *10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mar. 4) & noon–5 p.m. (Mar. 5), Hands-On Museum, 219 E. Huron. $7.50 (students & seniors, $6) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

★Walk: Grex. *Every Saturday (different locations).* All invited to join members of this local computer-conferencing group for a walk, either along trails in Bird Hills Park (March 4) or from Gallup Park through Nichols Arboretum (March 11, 18, & 25). *10 a.m., meet at the Newport Rd. entrance to Bird Hills Park (Mar. 4) and in Gallup Park parking lot (Mar. 11, 18, & 25), 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 741–9351.*

"Maple Sugaring: A Journey to the Sugar Bush": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. *Every Saturday & Sunday, February 25–March 26.* Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a hike to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. Also, a pancake and sausage breakfast, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. *10 & 11 a.m. and noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $2 (breakfast, $3.50). (Park entry fee: $4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426–8211.*

★Downtown Home & Garden Spring Lecture Series. *Every Saturday.* Today: Vandenberg Bulb Company (Howell) sales rep Tom Kraft discusses **"The Importance of Pruning Trees and Shrubs."** Also this month: landscape architect Mike Appel discusses what to consider before **"Hiring a Landscape Designer"** (March 11), DH&G staffer Cynthia Hunter discusses **"Starting from Seed"** (March 18), and DH&G owner Mark Hodesh discusses **"Fixin' Up Your Lawn"** (March 25). *10 a.m.–2 p.m., DH&G, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662–8122.*

Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw R/C Raceway. *March 4 & 11.* Indoor dirt-track racing for stock and modified model trucks and buggies. Hobby equipment sale by Rider's Hobby. Food concessions.

10:30 a.m. (doors open at 8 a.m.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $13. (313) 565–2815.

Draw Doubles: Ann Arbor Area Disc Induced Sports Club. *Every Saturday.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole disc golf courses. Disc golf is a popular sport played with a Frisbee-like disc; the goal is to land the disc in a "pole hole" in the fewest shots. In draw doubles play, beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. *11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $4 per player; free for spectators. (Park entry fee: $4 per vehicle.) 434–1615.*

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** *Every Saturday.* Storytelling program for kids ages 2½–7. Also, a visit from Winnie-the-Pooh after the March 25 storytime. *11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–4110.*

★**"What's in a Seed?": Waterloo Recreation Area.** Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh explains the parts of a plant, the different ways seeds are dispersed, and how a seed grows into a plant. Participants can plant some seeds to grow at home. *11 a.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) Free. Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.*

"The Sky Tonight"/"The Mars Show": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. *Every Saturday & Sunday. The Sky Tonight* (11:30 a.m. Saturdays only and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both weekend days and holiday weekdays) is an audiovisual exploration of the current night sky. *The Mars Show* (12:30 p.m. Saturdays only and 2:30 p.m. both weekend days and holiday weekdays) is an audiovisual show, narrated by *Star Trek* star Patrick Stewart, about the history of the planet and the reasons for our interest in it. Followed by a brief update on current issues about Mars. *11:30 a.m. and 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $3.75. 764–0478.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Indiana. *Afternoon time TBA, Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Tuesday & Saturday.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. *1–3 p.m. (Sat.) & 7:30–9:30 p.m. (Tues.), location TBA. Free. 222–9803, 761–1115.*

★**"Tastefest: Sweets of Japan": Wizzywig Collectibles.** A chance to sample a variety of Japanese sweets and snacks which feature tastes and textures not usually found in the U.S. *1 p.m., Wizzywig, 529 E. Liberty. Free. 22–5166.*

★**"Sap to Syrup: Doing It Yourself": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner discusses and demonstrates the steps of maple sugaring for those who'd like to try it at home, including tree ID, tapping, and sap harvesting and boiling. *1–2:30 p.m., County Farm Park, Platt Rd. entrance (south of Washtenaw). Free. Preregistration required. 971–6337.*

"25th Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. See 3 Friday. *Afternoon dances in Scarlett Middle School gym:* Danika Murray and Martha Vander Kolk call **contras** to music by the Treetown Swingtette (1–2:25 p.m.). Gaye Fifer leads a **Dutch Crossing workshop** to music by the Treetown Swingtette (2:30–3:15 p.m.). Fifer calls **classic contras** to music by Dr. Grangelove (3:25–5:25 p.m.). Cathy Stephens leads a **tango workshop** (5:30–6:30 p.m.). *Afternoon program in the cafeteria:* Erna-Lynne Bogue calls **modern English country** dances to music by Childgrove (1–3:15 p.m.). Cathy Stephens leads a **vintage dance workshop** (3:25–4:25 p.m.). Bruce Sagan leads a **Scandi workshop** to music by Veselba (4:25–5:25 p.m.). Fifer and Wayne Albright lead a **waltz workshop** to music by Sagan and Veselba (5:30–6:30 p.m.). *Afternoon program in music room #1:* Members of Crowfoot lead **music workshops** (1–2:25 & 3–5:25 p.m.). Sagan leads a round of **harmony songs** (2:25–3 p.m.). *Afternoon program in music room #3:* Sheila Graziano leads a **Marley dance workshop** (1–2 p.m.). Rick Mohr leads a **rhythm and timing workshop** (2–3 p.m.) and a **harmony singing workshop** (3–5:25 p.m.). *Evening dances in the gym:* Mohr calls **contras** to music by Crowfoot (8–10:50 p.m.). Don Theyken calls **contras** to music by Twas Brillig and the Mazel-Toves (11 p.m.–1 a.m.). *Evening events in the cafeteria:* a **concert** by Katseye (7–8 p.m.), and Bogue calls **English country dances** to music by Childgrove (8–10 p.m.). Sagan leads **Scandi dancing** to music by Veselba (10–10:50 p.m.). Stephens leads **vintage dance** to music TBA (11 p.m.–1 a.m.). 1 p.m. until the wee hours.

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum.** *Every Saturday & Sunday.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

★**Venice Maki: Liberty Borders.** Performance by this singer-songwriter and guitarist who writes peppy pop songs with hummable melodies. Also, signing. *2 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

Kids Drum Circle: Oz's Music. All kids invited to join a drumming session hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. *3–4 p.m., Oz's Music, 1920 Packard. $10. 662–8283.*

★**African American Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion of ***If He Hollers Let Him Go,*** Chester Himes's 1945 novel about 4 days in the life of the only black foreman in a shipyard during World War II. *4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 942–6013.*

★**Tommy Watkins: Common Language.** This writer discusses ***Living Out Loud,*** his memoir of coming out as gay to other Southern black Baptist preachers. Also, Q&A and a signing. *4 p.m., Common Language, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

★**Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers.** *March 4 & 11.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. The observatory's huge, 24–inch McMath telescope is operational, but participants are nevertheless encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *6:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear), Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

"Uke-tacular Uke-a-thon": Ann Arbor Music Center. Local and area ukulele players play a variety of music. The day also includes 8 ukulele workshops (1–7 p.m.). This event sold out last year, so get tickets early. *7 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $12 ($25 includes workshops) in advance at the Ann Arbor Music Center and (if available) at the door. 665–0375.*

Lori Sims: Chelsea Music Celebrations. This WMU music professor, winner of the 1998 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, performs a program TBA. *7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 121 E. Middle, Chelsea. Tickets $14.50 in advance and at the door. 433–2787.*

"Prince Darling": Dreamland Theater. *March 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, & 19.* Naia Venturi directs her marionette show, adapted from Andrew Lang's fairy tale about a spoiled young prince with behavioral problems. When the Good King arranges for the Fairy of Truth to befriend the young prince and help him become a better person, the prince's false friends make things difficult. *7 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. $7 (kids 12 & under, $5). 657–2337.*

Dexter Twirlers Square Dance Club. Glen Geer calls square dances to recorded music for experienced dancers. No partner necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes (not tennis shoes). Beginner lessons ($3) available 12:45 p.m. Wednesdays, Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Dexter–Ann Arbor Road. *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Church, 7610 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. $5. 433–0308.*

Wanda Sykes: Live Nation. Brash, sharp-witted observational and topical humor by this popular African American stand-up comic, a former performer and Emmy-winning writer on *The Chris Rock Show* who these days is a ubiquitous presence on Comedy Central. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $36 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"19th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 3 Friday. Tonight's headliner is **Waddie Mitchell,** the legendary cowboy poet from Nevada, a founder of the Elko Cowboy Poetry Gathering who is known for his laconic, unsentimental poems and stories about cowboy life. Opening acts: **Rafe Martin** is an award-winning author and storyteller for both kids and adults whose repertoire includes tales of fantasy and the natural world. **Badria Jazairi** is a Hopwood Award-winning writer and storyteller from Chelsea who won the 2001 Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Her repertoire includes stories of her great-great-grandfather, an emir of Algeria known as the "Poet Warrior" who fought the French in the 19th-century. 7:30 p.m.

"A Thousand Clowns": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Tartuffe": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Moonglow": Performance Network Professional Season. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

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LANDSCAPES OF LONGING
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Additional support has been provided by the Blakemore Foundation, the University of Michigan's Center for Japanese Studies and Center for Chinese Studies, and other generous partners.

Andô Hiroshige (Japanese, 1797–1858) detail of *53 Stages of the Tôkaidô: Kameyama: Clearing after Snowfall,* Color woodblock print, 1831–34, Allentown Art Museum, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Fowler Merle-Smith

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Tuesday, March 7, 5—7 pm
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St. Joseph Mercy Hospital—Ann Arbor

Wednesday, March 22, 4:30—7 pm
Facial Rejuvenation Event
Chelsea Comfort Inn, Village Conference Center, Chelsea, I-94, Exit 159

Enjoy light refreshments and EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS at both events!

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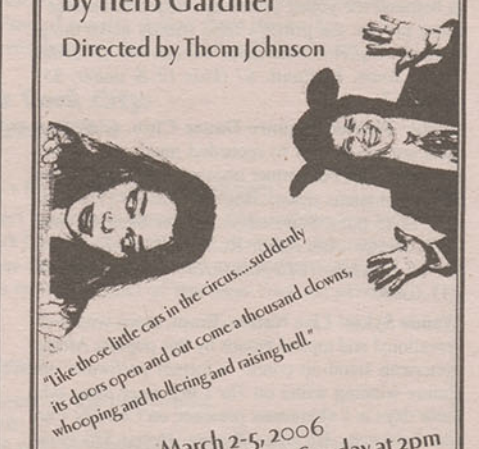
A Thousand Clowns
by Herb Gardner
Directed by Thom Johnson



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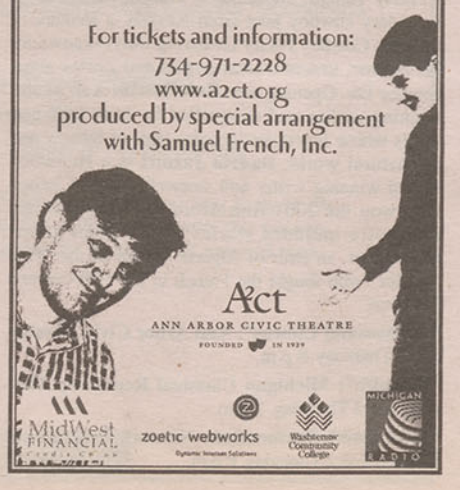

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4 SATURDAY *continued*

"Night Blooming": BlackBag Productions. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Tom Foss: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Men's Night Dance": Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by DJ John Brown. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). $1 discount for male nonmembers. 973–1933.*

★**Lost Elementz: The Planet.** Brighton hip-hop trio whose themes range from an angry rejection of conventional mores to the joys of scratching oneself. *9 p.m., The Planet, 1112½ South University. Free. 994–4545.*

Liz Mandville Greeson: Firefly Club. Gritty, hip-shaking blues by a Chicago band led by Greeson, a high-voltage blues singer-songwriter with a soulful 4–octave voice who has been featured at several Chicago Blues Fests. Greeson is also a fine electric and acoustic guitarist and occasionally plays rub board to add a spicy, down-home feel. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $15 in advance and at the door. 665–9090.*

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

MTF. "Night Watch" (Timur Bekmambetov, 2005). See 3 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

5 SUNDAY

★**Ultimate Frisbee: H.A.C. Ultimate.** *Every Sunday.* All invited to a pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Morning time TBA, Burns Park, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 995–1621.*

★**Falun Gong.** *Every Sunday.* Local practitioners introduce this Chinese discipline, which consists of 5 exercises and meditation. *8:30–10:30 a.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. Free. 834–4978.*

★**"Sunday Run": Two Dogs Running.** *Every Sunday.* All invited to run a different course, 3–6 miles, each week. Maps provided. Also, postrun socializing at Sweetwaters in Kerrytown. *8:45 a.m. (sign up at 8:30 a.m.), meet at Sweetwaters Cafe, Kerrytown, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St. Free. 657–0214.*

★**Shorinji Kempo.** *Every Sunday.* This Japanese self-defense system combines hard and soft techniques with Zen philosophy. *9–11 a.m., Arts in Motion Dance Studio, 2839 Boardwalk. Free to first-time visitors ($25 monthly dues). 332–1780.*

Book Sale: St. Mary Student Parish. *March 4 & 5.* Sale of Christian and secular spiritual development books and Easter and Communion gifts. *9 a.m.–7 p.m., St. Mary's, 331 Thompson. Free admission. 663–0557.*

★**Meditation: Karma Thegsum Choling.** *Every Sunday.* All invited to sitting (9:30 a.m.) and chanting (10 a.m.) meditation. *9:30 a.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761–7495, 678–7549.*

"Africa and AIDS": Church Women United World Day of Prayer. Women of all faiths are invited to this annual interdenominational service celebrated around the world, written this year by a congregation of Polish women. Preceded by fellowship and refreshments. *9:30 a.m., New Hope Baptist Church, 218 Chapin. Freewill offering. 665–8773.*

★**Introductory Dharma Talk: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** *Every Sunday.* Talks by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. Today's topic: **"Balancing Life, Balancing Ourselves."** Also this month: **"Live Through Appreciation"** (March 12), **"Intelligent Faith and Taking Responsibility"** (March 19), and **"Four Remedies for Positive Change"** (March 26). *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. Free, but donations accepted. 994–3387.*

Pancake Breakfast: St. Thomas Catholic Church. *Every Sunday, March 5–April 2.* Pancakes and fixin's, and other breakfast fare. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., St. Thomas Parish Hall, 517 Elizabeth at State. $5 (seniors & children age 11 & under, $3). 761–8606.*

★**Silent Vipassana Meditation: Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry.** *Every Sunday.* Meditators of all levels invited for an hour of silent meditation focusing on the breath. While the practice stems from the earliest and purest Buddhist teachings, this form of meditation requires no reli-

country music

Lee Roy Parnell
Electric slide

"Keep it vanilla," Hank Williams once said to band members who cut loose with jazzy licks. Country music, whose simultaneous glory and weakness is its orientation toward the common denominator, hasn't always been friendly to really talented instrumentalists. Lee Roy Parnell is a veteran of the roadhouse guitar, a decent singer and songwriter whose real skill lies in crafting a guitar line that wraps itself around the vocal component of a song in a distinctive way. Parnell's career goes back to a stint with Kinky Friedman's Texas Jewboys in 1976, and in the mid-1990s some strong songs and a bit of hillbilly charm put him in the top reaches of the charts with songs like "Heart's Desire." Dropped by the Arista label after Nashville began turning out paeans to domesticity, he just kept on making music with his voice, pen, and slide and electric guitars, by turns delicate and growling.

Parnell's music is a southern brew with lots of blues, Memphis soul, and gospel only slightly damped down by the discipline of country songcraft. He's one of the few country artists who can use African American backup singers without seeming to be trying to pull off something artificial, and his latest album, *Back to the Well,* is full of ingenious old soul moves, both in Parnell's own guitar playing and in the ways the songs set up a space for the guitar. Most of the songs were written by Parnell in collaboration with one of a group of top Nashville songsmiths, people who obviously admire what he does.

The lyrics on the album are mostly on the mellow side, and when Parnell cranks up the energy level it goes toward funky rather than toward fast. Parnell is back on a major Nashville label now (Universal South). Accordingly, he's got quite a few songs about love and inspiration on the new set. But when he taps the vein of dissatisfaction that lies behind really great pop songs, the results are as good as anything coming out of Nashville these days. He does a song about the point at which "a young heart becomes an old soul" that Patty Loveless recorded a couple of years ago, but with his cascade of mournful electric guitar sounds Parnell gets even more out of it than Loveless did.

The Ark has booked some great country acts that aren't currently on top of the charts but have continued to develop musically—Deana Carter did a fine show there recently, and Hal Ketchum and Suzy Bogguss are regulars. It's a noteworthy move; comparable folk and acoustic music clubs, like Chicago's Old Town School of Folk Music and Berkeley's Freight & Salvage, don't do this. Lee Roy Parnell and his band come to the Ark on Wednesday, March 15.

—James M. Manheim

gious beliefs. Followed by a 30-minute dharma discussion. *10–11:30 a.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entrance on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Physician Aid in Dying: The Right to Die": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship.** Talk by retired social worker Bernie Klein. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971–8638.*

★**First Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** *Every Sunday.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Today: First Presbyterian minister Melissa Anne Rogers discusses **"Letting the Church Know Your Last Wishes."** Also this month: First Singles members Carol Lee Charles, Nancy McAllister, and Laura Berg **reflect on their lives** (March 12), a **potluck brunch** (bring a dish to pass) and planning meeting (March 19), and First Presbyterian member Vera Strongman presents **"March Fool Day Stories"** (March 26). Also, members meet for breakfast every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Cafe Marie in the Courtyard Shops (1759 Plymouth Rd.). *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

★**Nature's Expressions.** Show and sale of crystalline mineral specimens, fossils, shells, mounted butterflies and insects, and more. Includes a complete fossil skeleton of a 9-foot, 100,000-year-old cave bear. *11 a.m.–5 p.m., 3443 Daleview Dr. (off N. Maple Rd. north of Huron River Dr.). Free. 994–3048.*

★**Tour: Zingerman's Creamery.** *Every Sunday.* Zingerman's cheesemaker John Loomis leads a tour of the new facility where Zingerman's cheeses are made. *Noon–2 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. Free. 929–0500.*

"25th Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. See 3 Friday. *Afternoon dances in the gym:* Erna-Lynne Bogue leads **contras** to music by Marty Somberg and friends (noon–1:45 p.m.). Rick Mohr leads **contras and square dances** to music by Crowfoot (2–4 p.m.). *Afternoon dance in the cafeteria:* **family dances** with music by Gemini (noon–1:45 p.m.). Bogue leads **English dances** to music by Bruce Sagan and Veselba (2–4 p.m.). Noon–4:30 p.m.

★**Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Sunday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. *12:30–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

Contact Improv. *March 5 & 19.* All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves contact with one or more partners. It can involve improvisational lifts and other experimentations with gravity, and there's lots of close physical contact. You might find yourself upside down, so dress appropriately for easy movement. No partner required. *12:30–2:30 p.m., Jazzercise Dance Studio, 1945 South Industrial. $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

★**Winter Democratic Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sunday.* The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 994–5908 & 663–4498 (today's ride), 913–9851 (general information).*

"19th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 3 Friday. Today: a **family concert** with 3 or 4 storytellers from the Friday and Saturday shows. 1 p.m.

★**"Kerry Tales: March in Line for Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and rollicking fun, with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's (Kerrytown), 407 N. Fifth Ave. Free. 769–3115.*

★**Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment.** Kids of all ages and all musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. *2–3 p.m., Oz's Music Environment, 1922 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662–8283.*

★**U-M Life Sciences Orchestra: 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads.** A quartet from this ensemble of U-M life sciences faculty and staff performs a program of classical music TBA. The musicians also briefly discuss their professional careers and why they make music a part of their lives. In conjunction with 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *2–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"A Thousand Clowns": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 2 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Tartuffe": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 2 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Moonglow": Performance Network Professional Season. See 2 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. *March 5, 12, 20, & 21.* This Ann Arbor-based program features 46 of the best 16- and 17-year-old American ice hockey players under the guidance of U.S. National coach Jeff Jackson. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Cleveland** of the North American Hockey League. *3 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $12 (students & children, $6). 327–9251.*

★**Ann Arbor-Motown Hash House Harriers.** *Every Sunday & occasional Saturdays.* The local chapter of an unorthodox running club for people who like to make a game of running. Each runner's task is to follow a trail designed to be confusing. The usual result is that the lead (i.e., fastest) runners run the longest distance, so that runners of varying abilities complete the course in nearly the same time. Each run includes at least one pit stop (with beer & pop hidden along the way) and is followed by a trip to a nearby restaurant. *3 p.m., location TBA. Free. Weekly locations available at a2h3.org.*

"Prince Darling": Dreamland Theater. See 4 Saturday. 3 p.m.

★**"Countdown to the Oscars": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to join *Ann Arbor News* arts writer John Cantu to discuss this year's Oscar nominees. Also, a contest to win 2 passes to a local movie theater. *4–5:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Ann Arbor Morris Dancers.** *Every Sunday.* All invited to try a session of this boisterous, jingly, ancient English ceremonial dance said to have originated a millennium ago as a pantomime of war between Moors and Crusaders. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Gretchen's House Learning Center, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 747–8138.*

"Uncoupled": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Audience members select 2 *Metro Times* personal ads (or personals they bring to the show), and local comics improvise a scene from a relationship the 2 selected advertisers might have if they were to meet. Alcohol is served. *7 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. $5. 214–7080.*

Janis Ian: The Ark. Known for her affecting blend of rapt introspection and social consciousness, this veteran folk-pop singer-songwriter scored her biggest hits with "Society's Child" (1967) and "At Seventeen" (1975). Since then she's written songs that have been recorded by everyone from Giorgio Moroder to Kathy Mattea, and the songs on her acclaimed new CD, *Folk Is the New Black,* range from protest songs and self-critiques to the breakup song "All Those Promises." *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $23 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Weekly Meeting: U-M Ballroom Dancers. *Every Sunday.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded (except March 12 & 19) at 5:30 p.m. by lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m. (Mar. 5, 19, & 26) & 5–11 p.m. (Mar. 12), Michigan Union Ballroom. $2. 763–6984.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Open mike for up-and-coming local stand-up comics. (If you'd like to perform, sign up at 769–9884.) Alcohol is served. *8:30 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. Tickets $5 in advance and at the door. 214–7080.*

Ann Arbor Women's City Club
1830 Washtenaw Avenue

Annual Flea Market
March 25th
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
March 26th
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Lunch and Learn
Wednesday, March 22nd
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
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Vienna Philharmonic

Riccardo Muti conductor
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 8 PM
Hill Auditorium

Riccardo Muti conducts the Vienna Philharmonic for its first Hill Auditorium concert since Leonard Bernstein conducted the venerable ensemble in 1988. Widely considered the finest orchestra in the world, the Vienna Philharmonic returns to Ann Arbor for a historic performance marking the 50th anniversary of their Ann Arbor debut.

PROGRAM

Schubert	Overture to *Rosamunde*, D. 644
Mozart	Symphony No. 35 in D Major, K. 385, "Haffner"
Schubert	Symphony No. 4 in c minor, D. 417
R. Strauss	Death and Transfiguration, Op. 24

Strolling Supper sponsored by LaSalle Bank precedes this performance. For information and reservations, please call 734.764.8489.

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Individual Hosts **Gardener and Bonnie Ackley Endowment, Carl and Charlene Herstein, Susan McClanahan and Bill Zimmerman, Ann Meredith,** and **Doug and Sharon Rothwell.**

Word Becomes Flesh
Marc Bamuthi Joseph

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 8 PM
Power Center

Word Becomes Flesh is provocative hip-hop theater about a man's unplanned journey into fatherhood. "The ruthless honesty of *Word Becomes Flesh* makes it feel like part of your own soul when it's over." (*Washington Post*)

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM, Metro Times** and **Michigan Chronicle/Front Page.**

Ian Bostridge tenor
Belcea Quartet

Julius Drake piano
SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 8 PM
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

After winning the 2001 Gramaphone Award for "Best Debut Recording," the Belcea Quartet has become one of Europe's most visible young chamber ensembles. This concert, also part of Carnegie Hall's "Perspectives" series by Ian Bostridge, features a chamber music program that includes two song cycles for tenor plus string quartet, as well as a performance of one of Shostakovich's early quartets.

PROGRAM

Fauré	La Bonne Chanson, Op. 61 (1892-94)
Shostakovich	String Quartet No. 3 in F Major, Op. 73 (1946)
Vaughan Williams	On Wenlock Edge (1909)

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Media Partner **WGTE 91.3 FM.**

Children of Uganda

Peter Kasule artistic director
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 7 PM
FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 8 PM
Power Center

Back by popular demand, the Children of Uganda present an exhilarating program of East African music and dance, featuring quicksilver movements, hypnotic drums, and songs of joy and hope. "Their performance brought the audience of 1,300 to its feet, cheering and stomping and whistling for more." (*The Boston Globe*)

Sponsored by Pfizer TOYOTA

Funded in part by the **National Endowment for the Arts, U-M Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs,** and **Heartland Arts Fund.**

The Children of Uganda residency is presented with support from **JPMorgan Chase.**

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM** and **Metro Times.**

Ewa Podleś in Rossini's
Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Alberto Zedda conductor
Ewa Podleś contralto (Tancredi)
Lawrence Brownlee tenor (Argirio)
Mariola Cantarero soprano (Amenaide)
SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 8 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

"There is one conspicuous reason for reviving Rossini's *Tancredi* in our time — the availability of Polish contralto Ewa Podleś." (*The Globe and Mail*) A showcase for Rossini's glorious music and extraordinary bel canto singing, this concert production stars contralto Ewa Podleś in the title role. Podleś is joined by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and soloists Mariola Cantarero and Lawrence Brownlee for this exclusive Ann Arbor concert performance.

Supported by **Charles H. Gershenson Trust, Maurice Binkow, Trustee** and **Linda and Maurice Binkow.**

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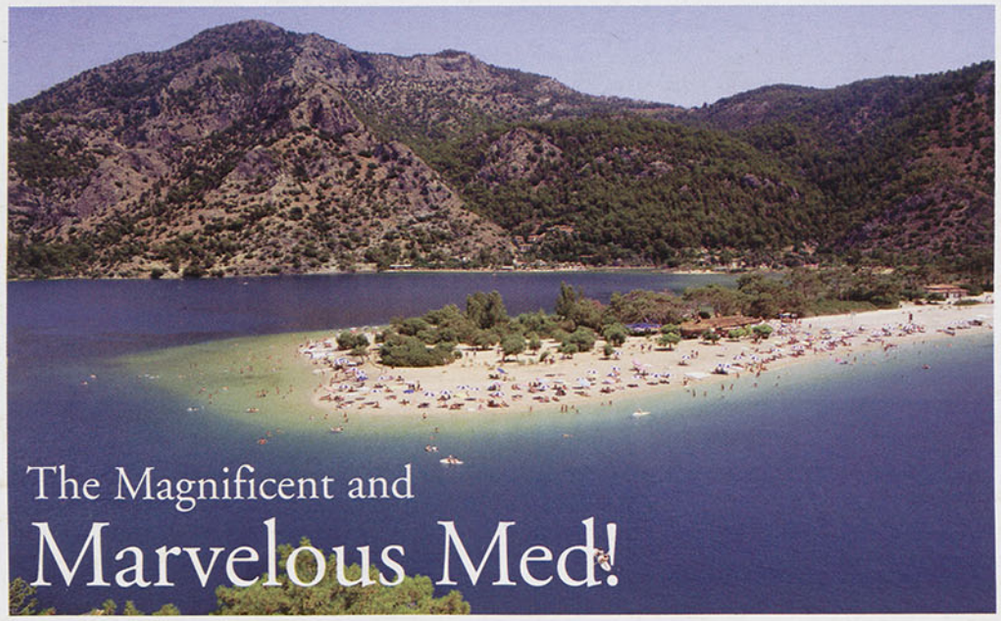

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How would you define the Mediterranean? Is it a place of diverse cultures, enviable lifestyles, interesting sojourns, beautiful scenery, fine dining, and superb shopping? Or maybe you define the Med as cool, classic, cutting-edge, and quintessential. Maybe it's best defined very simply as . . . Magnificent and Marvelous!

Whether your travels take you to the Medieval cities of Italy and Croatia, to the incredible ruins of Greece and Turkey, to the sophisticated avenues of Monaco and Spain, to Barcelona and Venice, Santorini and St. Tropez, or to the romantic and historic Greek isles – you will find yourself immersed in a variety of cultures and enchanted with it all. Everywhere you turn, there is sure to be a scene of picture-postcard quality. And with nearly every step you take, you are sure to find a piazza, plaza, or historic site ready to explore and enjoy.

NOW is the time to get out that map, look at the brochures, and make your travel plans for the new year. There's so much to see and do! Please give us a call or stop by. We are your partners in travel. We're here to give you guidance, advice, and to make those dreams and ideas become a reality. Our experienced, knowledgeable counselors have been there, and we are eager to pique your curiosity in a destination that may be new, renewed, or even reinvented. And as always . . . wherever you want to go . . . we can get you there!

GREECE – Filled with ancient treasures and modern pleasures, you are sure to return home with your own personal definition of "Greek Revival."

CROATIA – More of us are visiting this friendly, picturesque country along the Adriatic coast. From Venetian-accented Istria to mountain-fringed Dalmatia, the restored, Medieval-walled Dubrovnik remains the country's most beautiful city.

ITALY – Europe's "over-the-knee" boot has it all: Three millennia of history and a culture and cuisine that can seduce just about anyone.

SPAIN – With the recent expansion of Madrid's three biggest museums, this Spanish capital can surely claim pride of place on the global art scene.

FRANCE – Come experience for yourself France's old-world romance that is indefinable and inimitable. Raise your glass to a culture that is constantly reinventing itself.

TURKEY – This "Crossroads between Europe and Asia" has exoticism to spare with its covered bazaars, whirling dervishes, sultans' treasures, and Byzantine mosaics.

What's New on the High Seas. . . . . page 2
Travel Agency Highlights. . . . . page 4 & 5
Great Getaways . . . . . page 7

A World of Fun Awaits!

CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES. There are a lot of new innovations and exciting itineraries "on the horizon" for Carnival in 2006. We'll highlight just a few to pique your interest. First and foremost, Carnival's very popular 12-day, 7-port European sailings will continue this year with the *Carnival Liberty*.℠ Departing from Civitavecchia (Rome), the itinerary includes the ports of Venice, Dubrovnik, Messina (Sicily), and Barcelona and showcases the very best of the Mediterranean. Now is the time to book your European "FunShip"® cruise to ensure best availability on stateroom selection and itinerary.

Next, Carnival has created a new "Signature Selection" menu option. Partnering with the world-renowned French master chef, Georges Blanc, Carnival's master chefs – fleet wide – now create and serve "Signature Selection" entrees in the main dining rooms, poolside restaurants, and supper clubs.

For your teens, Carnival and The Coca-Cola Company have partnered to create "Club 02℠" – a new program aboard the line's 21 "Fun Ships." Created for your children ages 15-17, the Club will feature "video walls" and "listening stations" in addition to a dance floor with DJ and a fun "Coke-tail" lounge.

For those of you who enjoy playing golf on vacation – we have an itinerary just for you! This winter and spring, the *Carnival Liberty* is sailing new and intriguing 6- and 8-day Caribbean and Bahamas itineraries – roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale. Depending on itinerary, you can play at such championship courses as Lucayan Golf Club (Bahamas), Hyatt Britannia Golf Club (Grand Cayman), Wyndham el

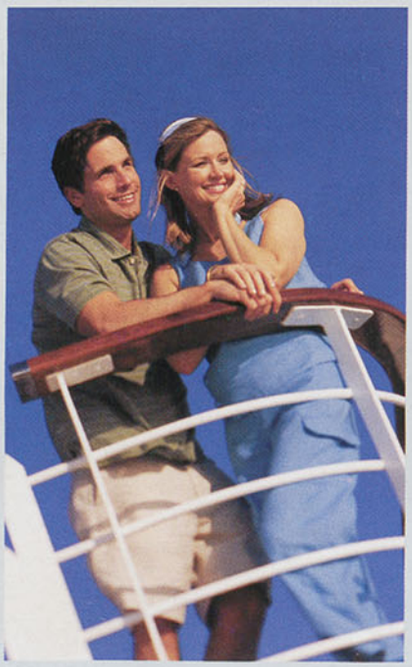
Conquistador (San Juan), Mahogany Run (St. Thomas), and Summit Golf & Resort (Panama.) Leave your clubs and shoes at home and take advantage of a complete line of Nike Golf products and apparel for rent, demonstration, and/or purchase. You can also have your new purchases custom-fitted onboard and shipped back to your home or office at no cost. Please call us or stop by for details and to make reservations.

TRAVEL TIP!

New Gulf Coast Itineraries

As you all very well know, many schedules and itineraries have been revised due to Hurricane Katrina. Also, three of Carnival's vessels (*Ecstasy, Sensation*, and *Holiday*) have been involved in the recovery efforts along the Gulf Coast and will be completely refurbished before returning to their home ports and previous schedules. Please call us for more information.

At any one moment there are a million ways to have fun.



A fabulous "Fun Ship"® cruise is a vacation that pleases everyone. Sail from Galveston on your choice of a 4, 5 or 7 day cruise to the Western Caribbean. If you want to head north to explore the Last Frontier, take one of our fantastic Alaska cruises sailing from May through September. Or visit some of Europe's great capitals on our 12 day grand Mediterranean cruise from Rome and see Naples, Dubrovnik, Venice, Messina, Barcelona, Cannes and Livorno. On Carnival, you'll find a million things to do — superb dining, lavish shows, a pampering spa, a friendly casino and much more. Do everything. Do nothing at all. It's your kind of fun.

4 & 5 day cruises	7 day cruises	7 day cruises	12 day Mediterranean cruises
from Galveston	from Galveston	to Alaska on	from Rome on
ELATION®	CARNIVAL CONQUEST®	CARNIVAL SPIRIT®	CARNIVAL LIBERTY℠
$329*	$549*	$799*	$1,649*

Call your American Express Travel Counselor for reservations today!

Carnival. The Fun Ships.®

*Cruise rates are in U.S. dollars, per guest and based on double occupancy. Government taxes/fees are additional for all guests. Rates are available on select sailings only and based on Category 1A. Prices vary by ship and sailing date, and space is subject to availability at time of booking. Restrictions apply. © 2005 Carnival Cruise Lines. All rights reserved. Ships' Registry: The Bahamas and Panama.

. . . Sailing from GALVESTON, TEXAS. The beautiful *Carnival Conquest*® (originally based in New Orleans) will continue to sail indefinitely from the port of Galveston. Departing Sundays, this 7-day roundtrip cruise features a new itinerary that includes Montego Bay, as well as Grand Cayman and Cozumel. The *Carnival Conquest*, with more staterooms with balconies and more staterooms with an oceanview, now offers those of you sailing from Galveston a whole new cruise experience. Other great amenities include more dining options, a fun casino, lavish entertainment, Spa Carnival® – and that's just the beginning.

On April 8, 2006, the newly refurbished *Ecstasy*® will return here and resume the 4- and 5-day Western Caribbean cruises.

. . . Sailing from MOBILE, ALABAMA. Beginning March 27, 2006, the newly refurbished "Fun Ship" *Holiday*® will resume its 4- and 5-day year-round Caribbean cruises.

. . . Sailing from NEW ORLEANS. Especially good news for all of us eager to return to "The Big Easy," *Carnival's Sensation*® – all refurbished and remodeled – will resume 4- and 5-day sailings to the Western Caribbean beginning this October.

CRUISING ALASKA!

Always an Adventure!

In Alaska, civilization hasn't conquered nature – it's embraced it! Drama is played out daily in Glacier Bay as enormous 200-foot glaciers creep down the slopes of mountains and crash into the sea. Magnificent humpback whales put on shows as they quickly emerge and just as quickly submerge into icy blue waters. Giant brown bears forage for food along the coastline. Eagles soar above. Sunsets strike the totem poles of Ketchikan and the Gold Rush buildings of Juneau, while Russian history comes alive in Sitka and the Old West is revived in Skagway. This is Alaska . . . and it is always an adventure!

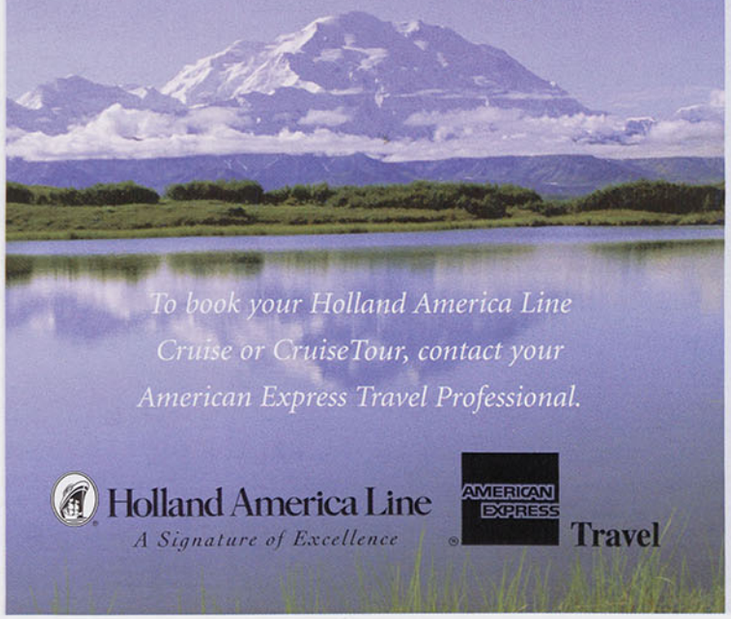
Alaska

Every year, we find new and exciting reasons to visit (or revisit) this Great Land. Whether by land or sea (or preferably – both!), this is a spectacular place for adventure. What could be more enticing than to take a vacation that includes such excursions as "Glorious Glacier Bay," "Ultimate Denali," "Prince William Sound Wilderness Cruise," "Juneau: Sportfishing," or the "Haines Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Float Trip?" What could be more fun than exploring the landscape as you hike, bike, horseback ride, or dog sled over the terrain? Or maybe explore the countryside from a train, kayak, or helicopter. Whatever your preference, there is something exhilarating for everyone in Alaska. From a cruise along the Inside Passage to a challenging climb up Denali, adventures in the 49th state come in all shapes and sizes. Indeed, America's last great frontier turns everyday travelers into spirited adventurers. Please stop by or give us a call, and we'll help you plan your adventure to our Last Frontier.

CELEBRITY CRUISES. Aboard Celebrity Cruises' *Summit*®, you will explore this Great Land's magic and unspoiled territory and all along the way, the ship's highly trained guides and naturalists will share their intimate knowledge of this magnificent destination. Appropriately named, the *Summit* will leave you feeling as if you've reached the absolute pinnacle of premium cruising. Large in size yet intimately elegant in ambience, this ship boasts all of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Wild places, luxurious spaces, outstanding values.



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7-Day Alaska Explorer
Roundtrip Seattle
Outside staterooms from $1,149

10- to 13-Day Great Land Wilderness CruiseTours
Vancouver, B.C. to Anchorage
Outside staterooms from $1,629

Fares are per person, cruise and cruisetour only, based on double occupancy in the minimum categories. Fares are in US dollars and include non-discountable amounts. Taxes of up to $82.79 are additional. Fares based on the early savings discount on the Statendam 9/15/06, Volendam 9/20/06, Zaandam 9/22/06 & Tour #7 Volendam 5/24/06 sailings. Additional sailings and rates available. Offers are subject to availability and may be altered or withdrawn at any time without prior notice. Ships' Registry: The Netherlands, Bahamas.

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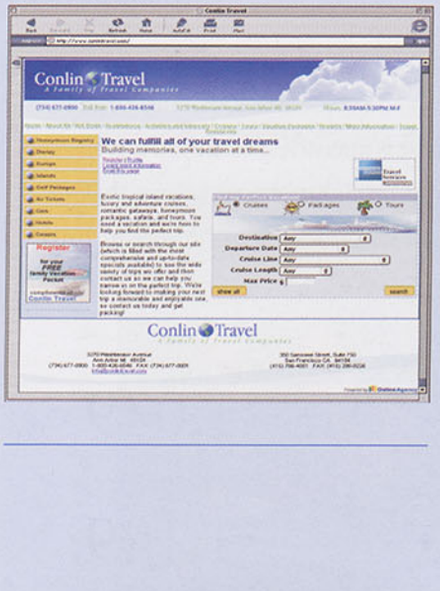


AMERICAN EXPRESS® Travel Representative

Teamwork Makes The Difference at Conlin Travel

Recognized as Ann Arbor's travel specialists for nearly 50 years, Conlin Travel has built its reputation by providing unparalleled service to our clients — both business and pleasure travelers. The key to this level of service is the quality of agents you'll find whenever you call or visit.

More than just experienced, Conlin agents are thorough, knowledgeable, courteous, and helpful. Their 100-plus years of collective experience in the travel business, coupled with a commitment to making your trip as enjoyable as possible, make them a valuable resource — whether you're going across the state, across the country, or across the globe.

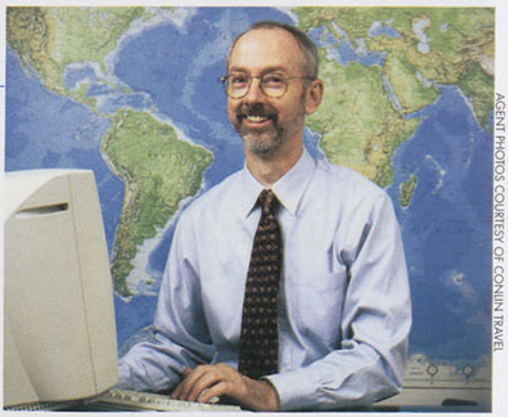
At Conlin Travel we work as a team, combining the expertise of all our agents to make sure each client is provided the best information and given the best service. By pooling the resources of our seasoned specialists, you have access to unusual intelligence and value in planning your trip. So no matter who you are working with directly, you know you've got all these travel professionals — plus a full support staff — working for you.

Whether your schedule calls for an extended safari or a brief escape from the routine, we've got the experience to help you get the most from your vacation. By plane, train, automobile, or cruise ship, we'll show you how to get there and what to see, and we'll make planning every detail of your trip a pleasure.

Anyone can make reservations. We make dreams come true.

Bill Mitchell

Bill Mitchell has been helping people plan memorable vacations at Conlin Travel for over 22 years. His specialty is Europe, with particular expertise in France and Italy. His clients benefit from his first hand knowledge of these and other European destinations. Bill has also planned many cruises, and always enjoys helping people discover exotic getaways.



AGENT PHOTOS COURTESY OF CONLIN TRAVEL

Nanette Rudd

Nanette Rudd is a history buff and freely shares with her clients her knowledge gained from 19 years of travel planning, and her own journeys to fascinating locales. She is well-versed in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. A true world traveler, Nanette counts Australia as a favorite destination.

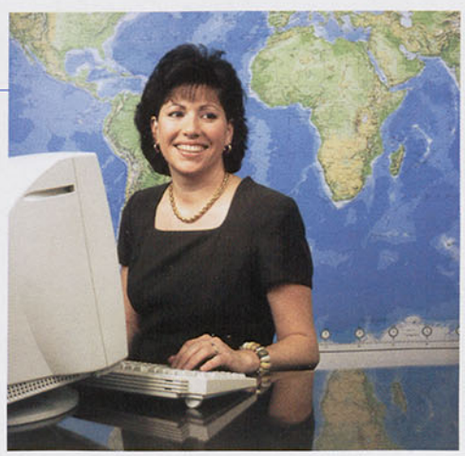
Sue Briggs

Sue Briggs has enjoyed helping travelers plan their vacations for over 14 years. She especially enjoys working with small groups looking for that Caribbean or Mexico getaway, or a fun cruise to the Caribbean or Alaska. She also loves sharing her experiences of travel to Hawaii with first time travelers to the Islands, as well as working with tours to Europe and Africa to make your vacation a lifetime memory. Sue also specializes in Las Vegas, Disney World, and cruises.

Sandy Kulenkamp

Sandy Kulenkamp has been with Conlin Travel for over 16 years, and has earned the enviable reputation as a "cruise expert." But along with the world's waterways, she is also well-versed in European travel, as well as Asia. She enjoys setting up trips to "all parts of the world," including China and Tanzania, which she has visited personally.

Kenna Kramer



Kenna Kramer is a vital resource when planning a visit to popular vacation spots like Disney World or Las Vegas, or when selecting the perfect honeymoon to Hawaii, or the Caribbean. Her knowledge of the Hawaiian Islands and Caribbean ports-of-call will make these exotic destinations familiar and inviting. As a graduate of the College of Disney Knowledge, she can bring the world's most popular theme park and all of Orlando's attractions to life for children of all ages.

Vicky Masters

Vicky Masters, a Greek native, began in the travel industry in 1990 and has been with Conlin Travel since 1996. She is an expert on Greece and the Greek islands and has traveled extensively throughout the country. She also enjoys planning cruises for her clients and she is well-versed in Mexico and the Caribbean Islands, such as U.S. Virgin Islands, St. Maarten, Aruba, Grand Caymen, and she also enjoys planning trips throughout Europe.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

services and amenities that have made Celebrity the preferred choice of avid cruisers around the world. For 2006, the *Summit* offers both 7-night *Southbound Alaska* sailings (departing Saturdays from Seward) and 7-night *Northbound Alaska* itineraries (departing Saturdays from Vancouver). The Alaska season runs from May 20 - September 2 and features calls (depending on itinerary) to Skagway, Juneau, Icy Strait Point, Ketchikan, and Sitka. Call us or stop by now and book your Celebrity cruise vacation to our Last Frontier.

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE. Recognized as the "leader in Alaska Cruises and Cruise Tours," Holland America Line begins its 58th year in this Last Frontier offering an incredible 159 cruises on 8 ships for the 2006 season. We'll highlight some of these outstanding itineraries that are sure to pique your adventurous spirit!

- Beginning in May 2006, two ships will sail *Glacier Bay & Tracy Arm,* 7-day roundtrip voyages from Vancouver. Highlights of these cruises include a full day of cruising Glacier Bay National Park with a U.S. Park Ranger and Huna Totem native interpreter, as well as visits to Southeast Alaska's top ports of call – Juneau, Skagway, and Ketchikan.
- Three ships will sail the 7-day *Glacier Discovery* itineraries between Vancouver and Seward, featuring Glacier Bay National Park and College Fjord or Hubbard Glacier. Select sailings will also visit a new port of call – Icy Strait Point.
- The *Alaskan Explorer* itineraries will sail roundtrip from Seattle and include the immense Hubbard Glacier and lovely Yakutat Bay or Glacier Bay National Park. Holland America Line's new ship, *ms Westerdam,* will be one of three vessels sailing from here.

*All prices are per person, double occupancy, cruise only and in U.S. dollars. Government taxes and fees are additional. All itineraries and prices are current at the time of printing and subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions apply. ©2005 Celebrity Cruises. Ships' Registry: The Bahamas. SL05-122770 • 11/23/2005

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*Price is per person, double occupancy, cruise only, on select sailings and in U.S. dollars. Price is based on ocean view availability and is subject to change. Government taxes and fees are additional. Certain restrictions apply. ©2006 Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. Ships registered in the Bahamas. SL05-122736c • 11/17/2005

Whether a seasoned traveller or a first time cruiser – we can help handle all of the details for a fantastic vacation!

For those of you fortunate enough to have the time to enjoy a CruiseTour, Holland America Line will offer 29 CruiseTours, each designed to showcase Alaska's natural wonders both by sea and land. CruiseTours and optional excursions will visit 11 National Parks (more than any other tour company) including Denali, Kluane National Park, Tombstone Territorial Park in the Yukon, and above the Arctic Circle to Gates of the Arctic National Park. New for 2006 is the "Homer and Kenai Peninsula Exploration," where you will travel off the beaten path not only to Kenai Fjords National Park, but also to Homer and Cooper Landing on the Kenai River.

In addition to outstanding cruise and CruiseTour itineraries to this Great Land, we believe Holland America Line's *Signature of Excellence®* innovations provide a higher level of service and amenities – sure to enhance your cruise experience. Special innovations include their Culinary Arts Center, presented by *Food & Wine* Magazine. This program features state-of-the-art show kitchens at sea – each resembling an elaborate kitchen utilized by celebrated chefs.

This cruise line has much to offer, and we've just touched the "tip" of an Alaskan glacier in highlighting all of the special services, amenities, and extras available from Holland America Line. Please call us or stop by for more details and to make reservations.

TRAVEL TIP!

First Time Cruiser?

ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL®, one of our favorite travel partners, is sharing some great tips for our first time cruisers.

What's included? Accommodations, nightly entertainment, and most of your meals.

Who cruises? From toddlers to grandparents, a Royal Caribbean cruise is the perfect vacation – no matter what your age.

What happens on a cruise? You will have the opportunity to enjoy activities that run the gamut from rock climbing to wine tasting, taking a bridge lesson and playing bingo, to running laps or relaxing poolside.

How to make your first cruise experience even better? Check in online. We'll tell you how. Next, book your shore excursions online up to 10 days before departure. For the first day of your cruise, pack a small carry-on bag with your travel documents, a change of clothes, swimsuit or maybe workout clothes, and any necessary medications. This will allow you the pleasure of enjoying your vacation the minute you board your ship and you won't have to wait for your luggage to arrive in your stateroom. If you plan to take advantage of spa services – book immediately, as the most popular treatments and times are reserved quickly. And last but not least . . . if you're hungry when you first board, head to the Windjammer Café – they'll be serving.

Indeed, your cruise adventure begins the minute you step onboard! From sunrise to sunset and around every corner – there's something fun and exciting for you to do on a Royal Caribbean cruise vacation.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WALT DISNEY CO.

GREAT GETAWAYS: WALT DISNEY WORLD

AMERICAN EXPRESS VACATIONS. There's just so much to do and enjoy at *Walt Disney World*® Resort that it seems almost impossible to see and do it all. Now, we're pleased to tell you that when we book your next *Walt Disney World* vacation through American Express Vacations, you can look forward to Disney's all new *Magic Your Way* Vacations. Completely reinvented, the *Walt Disney World* vacation experience is more affordable, flexible, and just more "magical" than ever! We'll highlight all that these new packages have to offer.

First of all . . . these vacations are **more affordable**, as the packages feature *Magic Your Way* Base Tickets for *Walt Disney World* Theme Parks. The more days you add to your ticket, the less it costs per day. With the optional *Magic Your Way* Package Plus Dining, you and your family can also experience an affordable variety of Disney restaurants, Dinner Shows, and even Character Dining.

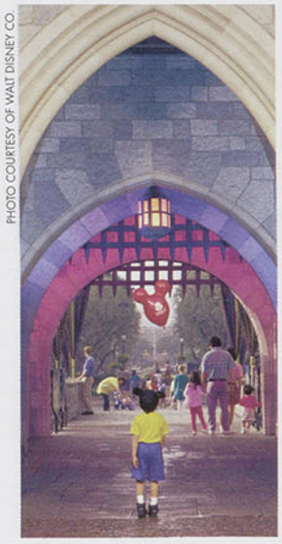

PHOTO COURTESY OF WALT DISNEY CO.

Next, **more flexible**, as you can customize your vacation with tickets that allow you to go back and forth from Theme Park to Theme Park on the same day with the *Park Hopper*® Option. Or you can add the *Water Park Fun & More* Option to experience such exciting attractions as *Disney's Blizzard Beach* Water Park, *Disney's Typhoon Lagoon* Water Park, *Downtown Disney*® Pleasure Island, or *Disney's Wide World of Sports*® Complex.

And last, but certainly not least, these Disney *Magic Your Way* Vacations are simply **more magical.** Please don't delay in having us make your reservations, because right now you can not only take advantage of the exciting new *Magic Your Way* Packages, but also take part in the special 50th anniversary celebration of the opening of *Disneyland*® *Park* with the *Happiest Celebration On Earth*. Here's your opportunity to combine all of the Disney thrills, laughter, and magic imaginable into one memorable vacation that includes all four *Walt Disney World* Theme Parks.

Please also be sure and ask us about *Extra Magic Hours*, Disney Dining, and the new, value-added, time-saving *Disney's Magical Express*. We look forward to making your next vacation one that's filled with "Disney magic!"

DESTINATION: WASHINGTON D.C.

HOTEL WASHINGTON. As you and your family plan your upcoming spring getaways, we encourage you to visit our nation's capital and to have us make reservations for you at the Hotel Washington – literally just steps from The White House, Lincoln Memorial, Smithsonian, the WWII Memorial, and a variety of theatre and shopping venues. One of the hotel's most popular springtime events – eagerly anticipated by both visitors and locals alike – is the reopening of their famous Rooftop Terrace and Two Continents Sky Room. Open only from April through October, these delightful dining venues showcase an unparalleled view of Downtown D.C. The Terrace features a light menu for lunch and dinner while the adjacent Two Continents Sky Room offers fine dining in a romantic setting. The hotel has just completed extensive interior renovations, and especially noticeable are refurbishments to the lobby area. We think this should only enhance your visit to this legendary historic property built in 1917. In addition to the recent remodeling, the hotel's popular economical family rate is still in effect, making your stay here not only a convenient choice, but a value-added choice as well. Please give us a call and we'll make all your arrangements to visit Washington this spring.

FROM HERE TO THERE WITH AIR NEW ZEALAND

AIR NEW ZEALAND. We don't have to tell you . . . a vacation actually begins when we first leave home. And for those of us considering travel to New Zealand, Australia, or to a variety of intriguing islands in the South Pacific, we can think of no finer way to get from "here to there" than aboard Air New Zealand.

First of all, Air New Zealand offers more flights to New Zealand and the South Pacific than any other airline. North American gateways include Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Honolulu.

Frequency of flights and ease of domestic connections are two reasons to fly this airline. The comfort and pleasure of your flight is the other. In 2005, ANZ introduced refurbished 747s that featured new lie-flat seats in their Business Premier class, granite-style bathroom counters,

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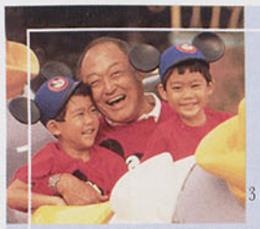

Walt Disney World® Resort

Disney's Caribbean Beach Resort

$505

Per person packages include:
3 nights accommodations • Roundtrip transfers via Disney's Magical Express • 3-day Magic Your Way Base Ticket

American Express Vacations tours operated by Travel Impressions, a subsidiary of American Express. Packages include roundtrip airport/hotel transfers, hotel accommodations, hotel tax and 3 Day Disney's Magic Your Way Base Ticket. Rates are per person, double occupancy based on Standard Room at Disney's Caribbean Beach Resort. Disney's Magic Your Way Base Ticket expires 14 days after first use and additional features to this ticket can be added at an additional cost. Blackout, weekend, holiday peak season surcharges apply. Rates valid for travel 1/1/06-4/22/06. Rates and promotions are accurate at time of printing and are subject to changes, exceptions, cancellation charges and restrictions. All advertised savings are reflected in price. $25 late fee applies to all bookings made for travel within 14 days of departure date. Not responsible for errors or omissions in the printing of this ad. Additional higher priced packages available. As to Disney artwork, logos and properties: © Disney. American Express acts solely as the sales agent for travel suppliers and is not liable for the actions or inactions of such suppliers. CST# 1022318-10, Washington UBI#600 469 694, ML#1192, TA 002 Registered Iowa Travel Agency, NV# 2001-0126 GR047-05. EB.11.28.05

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Contact your local American Express Travel Professional for more information.

BUSINESS PREMIER

AIR NEW ZEALAND

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

more personal space in their Pacific Economy class (including such amenities as video and audio on demand), and delicious meals and popular regional wines that deliver to each passenger "the freshest, purest tastes of New Zealand."

For seat comfort, Air New Zealand offers a generous 34-inch seat pitch in Pacific Economy and a 39-40-inch seat pitch in their Pacific Premium Economy class. In Business Premier, passengers will enjoy a fully flat bed, separate ottoman footrest, a high resolution 10.4-inch screen to view on-demand digital entertainment, an active noise-cancellation headset, meal service featuring New Zealand's finest natural produce – all presented with a new look crockery and cutlery, plus many more superb amenities.

AMERICAN EXPRESS Travel Representative

Conlin Travel
3270 Washtenaw Avenue
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It is also important to note that Air New Zealand is a partner in the American Express International Airline Program that allows Platinum Card® members complimentary companion tickets with each purchase of a non-restrictive full-fare Business Premier class ticket. (This two-for-one program has no blackout periods and no limits to the number of times Platinum Card members can take advantage of this opportunity.)

Please give us a call or stop by. We're eager to help you plan your air travel aboard Air New Zealand – the airline that inspires us to discover new places and to experience new destinations; the airline that makes getting from "here to there" a pleasure; the airline that ensures your vacation begins the minute you step onboard!

Mozart's Roots: A Cappella Music in Germany

The Tallis Scholars

Peter Phillips director
THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 8 PM
St. Francis Catholic Church

Known for their beautifully blended choral sound, the Tallis Scholars have established themselves as the leading practitioners of Renaissance sacred music. This program examines the work of German and Swiss Renaissance composers to trace the development of a *cappella* polyphony and its influence on Mozart and other German composers.

PROGRAM

Praetorius	Magnificat I
Praetorius	Videns dominus
Hassler	Ad dominum cum tribularer
Praetorius	O bone Jesu
Aichinger	Salve regina
Praetorius	Magnificat II
Senfl	Ave Maria
Schütz	Die mit Tränen säen
Schütz	Selig sind die Toten
Schütz	Deutsches Magnificat
J.S. Bach	Komm, Jesu, Komm

Media Partner **Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.**

A Tribute to Herbie Hancock

SFJAZZ Collective

Joshua Redman artistic director and saxophone
Bobby Hutcherson vibraphone
Nicholas Payton trumpet
Andrew Hayward trombone
Miguel Zenón alto saxophone
Renee Rosnes piano
Matt Penman bass
Eric Harland drums
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 8 PM ▸ Michigan Theater

For this UMS debut, Joshua Redman's SFJAZZ Collective pays tribute to the genius of Herbie Hancock, with performances of his works juxtaposed against new pieces composed by each of the eight individual Collective members. Through this innovative approach, the Collective shows that jazz is a living, ever-changing and ever-relevant art form.

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05/06 Season Media Partner WEMU 89.1

Shostakovich Centennial Festival

Kirov Orchestra

UMS Choral Union
Valery Gergiev conductor
FRIDAY, MARCH 17 – SUNDAY, MARCH 19
Hill Auditorium

Born in 1906 in St. Petersburg, Dmitri Shostakovich struggled to reconcile musical and political revolutions, developing a style that was progressive yet still accessible, marked by wide emotional extremes. His fifteen symphonies represent one of the 20th century's most important creative bodies of symphonic exploration. Beyond their artistry, they document much of the century (1924-71) in a way that both commemorates important moments in world history and reveals the inner struggles of an artist caught in the circumstances of his own time.

UMS's Shostakovich Centennial Festival spans two seasons, with five concerts by the Kirov Orchestra and conductor Valery Gergiev. Eleven of the composer's fifteen symphonies will be performed. The first weekend of the festival features two performances of five early works, including two of the young composer's symphonies as well as the overtly political seventh and ninth symphonies, penned during World War II. In addition, this weekend includes a Shostakovich symposium, featuring keynote speaker Alex Ross (*The New Yorker*) and a screening of the documentary film *The War Symphonies: Shostakovich Against Stalin* (1997).

Kirov Orchestra

UMS Choral Union | Valery Gergiev conductor
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 8 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

ALL-SHOSTOKOVICH PROGRAM (3/17)
Symphony No. 1 in f minor, Op. 10 (1924-25)
Symphony No. 2 in B Major, Op. 14
("October Revolution") (1927)
Symphony No. 10 in e minor, Op. 93 (1953)

A Prelude Dinner precedes the performance.
For information and reservations, please call 734.764.8489.

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Shostakovich Symposium

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1 – 6 PM ▸ Rackham Amphitheater

Introduction
The Political Context of Shostakovich's Music
William Zimmerman, U-M Professor of Political Science

Keynote Address
Weaponizing Music: Shostakovich's "Leningrad" Symphony in Wartime and After
Alex Ross, Music Critic, *The New Yorker*

Presentations
The "Historical" Shostakovich
William Rosenberg, U-M Professor of History

Art Under Political Repression: The Equivocal Nature of Shostakovich's Music
Laura Kennedy, U-M Doctoral Student of Musicology

Roundtable Discussion
Members of the Kirov Orchestra
William Zimmerman, moderator

Documentary Film (4:30 PM)
The War Symphonies: Shostakovich Against Stalin
(Directed by Larry Weinstein, 1997, 82 minutes)
Introduction by Herb Eagle, U-M Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures

A collaboration with the U-M Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies, School of Music, Department of History, Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, and Department of Political Science.

Kirov Orchestra

Valery Gergiev conductor
SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 7:30 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

ALL-SHOSTOKOVICH PROGRAM (SUN 3/19)
Symphony No. 9 in E-flat Major, Op. 70 (1945)
Symphony No. 7 in C Major. Op. 60 ("Leningrad") (1941)

A Prelude Dinner precedes the performance.
For information and reservations, please call 734.764.8489.

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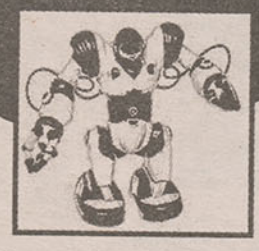

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Sunday, March 5, 1 - 5 p.m.
Saturday, March 11, noon - 4 p.m.
Sunday, March 12, 1 - 5 p.m.

Ann Arbor Hands-on Museum, 220 E. Ann
For more information, call (734) 936-7457.

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"Video Trapped the Rapper Tour": The Blind Pig. Headliner is **Percee P,** a New York City underground hip-hop MC known for his prodigious rhyming skills. Also, New York City underground hip-hop MCs **Tableek, Wordsworth, Doujah Raze,** and **Earatik Statik,** and the local hip-hop collective **Athletic Mic League.** *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, $25 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Character-driven improv by Eye Candy, a quintet that won the club's improv invitational tournament last March. Alcohol is served. *10 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. Tickets $5 in advance and at the door. 214–7080.*

"The Jim Jam": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Detroit's new **Motoprism** theater company performs short plays, both comic and serious, based on cast members' personal lives. Alcohol is served. *11 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. $5. 214–7080.*

FILMS

MTF. "Night Watch" (Timur Bekmambetov, 2005). See 3 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

6 MONDAY

★**"Chelsea Winter Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Monday.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 34–45 miles, to either Dexter or the Waterloo Recreation Area. *9 a.m., meet at Aberdeen Bike & Fitness, 1175 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. (517) 851–8323 & (517) 285–6830 (today's ride), 994–0044 (general information).*

★**Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army.** *Every Monday.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & older. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Coffee, tea, juice, and doughnuts served. Followed by lunch ($1) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus. *Every Monday.* All invited to join this independent 30–member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. $5 per week (applicable toward $60 per semester membership dues) for nonmembers. 213–3770, 663–5907.*

"Barn Play Time": Cobblestone Farm Association. *Every Monday.* All kids age 5 & under (with a caregiver) invited for play, music, and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard (next to Buhr Park). $5 per child. Space limited; reservations recommended. 994–2928.*

★**Knitting and Fellowship: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 55 & older invited. Yarn & knitting needles provided. *11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**"Food for Life: Nutrition and Cooking for Cancer Survival and Prevention": Whole Foods Market.** *March 6, 13, 20, & 27.* Cancer Project chef Jan Kemp demonstrates how to fix healthy foods. Today: **"Fueling Up on Low-Fat Foods."** Also this month: **"Favoring Fiber"** (March 13), **"Discovering Dairy Alternatives"** (March 20), and **"Replacing Meat"** (March 27). *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"From Empty Pews to Empty Cradles: Fertility Decline among European Catholics": U-M Population Studies Center.** Talk by University of California-San Diego economics professor Eli Berman. Bring a bag lunch. *Noon, 6050 Institute for Social Research, 426 Thompson. Free. 647–5698.*

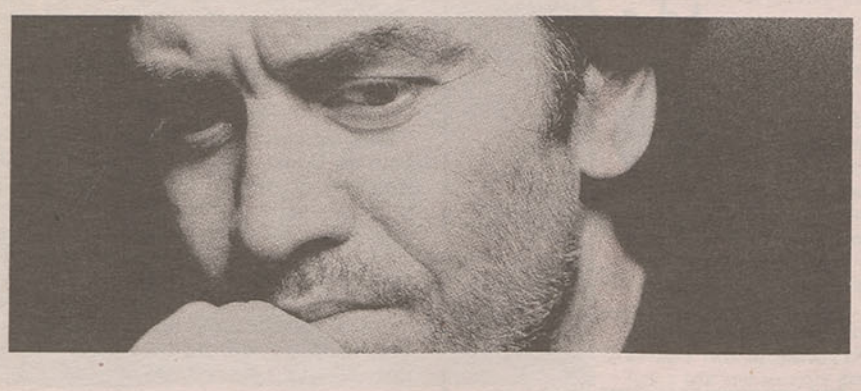
★**Table Game Day: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 55 & older invited to play various table games. *1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Monday.* All seniors age 55 & older invited to play this popular tile game. *1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**"Covering: The Hidden Assault on Our Civil Rights": Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by Yale law professor Kenji Yoshino. *4–5:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★**"Revaluing the Transatlantic Alliance: Foundations and Challenges for EU-U.S. Relations": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe."** Talk by John Bruton, the European Union ambassador to the U.S. *4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 647–2743.*

classical music



Shostakovich symphonies

Gergiev, the Kirov, and the twentieth century's symphonic giant

The symphonies of Dmitry Shostakovich, the former Soviet Union's most celebrated composer, are the best of the twentieth century. From his First Symphony in 1925 through the Fifteenth and final symphony of 1971, Shostakovich kept on boring deeper into the bedrock of existential dread. He became internationally famous the night of his First Symphony's premiere, and while his later years had their ups and downs—a hero of the people one day and a nonperson facing possible liquidation the next—the end of his life was a total downer: an atheist crippled by disease, he was confronting his mortality in a totalitarian state that had the power and potentially the inclination to annihilate his posthumous memory. From before he wrote the incidental music for *Hamlet* in 1932 until after he wrote a film score for *King Lear* in 1970, Shostakovich presented himself in his music as a combination ironic hero and mad king's fool, a two-faced mask meant to hide his own acute case of bad nerves.

When Shostakovich died in 1975, the USSR still had another sixteen years to go, but its soul was already dead, and Shostakovich's symphonies are in effect its musical epitaph. The First Symphony is an ironic tragedy, the Second and Third are Bolshevik triumphs set to music, and the Fourth and Fifth are Communist tragedies. The Sixth through Ninth are the chapters of a musical Soviet Realist *War and Peace*, while the Tenth is *King Lear* set in the Kremlin, with Stalin as the mad king and the composer as his fool. The Eleventh and Twelfth are political dissidence disguised as state propaganda, the Thirteenth offers symphonic protest songs of bitterness and brutality, and the Fourteenth sends orchestral suicide notes of nihilism and despair. Finally, the Fifteenth is the sound of the ghosts of great symphonists howling in the face of the void.

Valery Gergiev and the Kirov Orchestra will perform five of Shostakovich's symphonies in two concerts at Hill Auditorium in March: the First, Second, and Tenth on Friday, March 17, and the Ninth and Seventh on Sunday, March 19. These are the first two of five Gergiev-Kirov concerts the University Musical Society is presenting over six months, with the remaining ten symphonies scheduled for three concerts that open the 2006–2007 season. Unrelentingly passionate and unerringly dramatic, Valery Gergiev is without doubt Russia's leading conductor. Incredibly virtuosic and unbelievably dedicated, the Kirov Orchestra is Russia's finest orchestra. This is the most impressive and significant series the UMS has presented since the Borodin Quartet performed Shostakovich's complete string quartets here a decade ago.

—James Leonard

★**"Shulchan Ivrit (Hebrew Table)": American Movement for Israel.** *Every Monday.* Conversation group for all speakers of Hebrew. *5 p.m., Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 769–0500.*

★**"Breathing as Meditation": The Joyful Body.** Talk by Joyful Body co-owner Todd Sargeant. *5–5:30 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 827–2639.*

★**Michael Dennis: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning Charles Moore Lecture.** Talk on a topic TBA by this award-winning MIT urban design professor. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–1300.*

★**"Family Life in the 21st Century": U-M Center for the Child and the Family.** Center for the Child and Family psychologist Sharon Gold-Steinberg discusses **"Divorce: Surviving and Thriving."** *7–8:30 p.m., UCCF, 530 Church St. Free. 764–9466.*

★**"What to Eat and Not Eat When You Have Arthritis": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local chiropractor Darren Schmidt. *7 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**The Unstuck Writers Society: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** All working and aspiring writers invited to join other writers to discuss the problems of writing and getting published with Ann Arborite and *Found* magazine founder **Davy Rothbart,** author of the recent short story collection *The Lone Surfer of Montana, Kansas.* Afterward, share contacts, generate ideas, and provide feedback on each other's writing. You're encouraged to bring something to discuss—a favorite book or article, information about a useful website, or copies of your own work. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Joe Queenan: Ann Arbor District Library.** This popular humorist and magazine writer, author of the bestselling *Queenan Country: A Reluctant Anglophile's Pilgrimage to the Mother Country,* directs his offbeat brand of humor at a variety of subjects. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"On Meditation and Practice": Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry.** Talk by Deep Spring guiding teacher Barbara Brodsky. Followed by Q&A and discussion. *7:30 p.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entrance on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Whales and Dolphins": Greenhills School Life of the Mind Lecture Series.** Talk by Florida State University biology professor Doug Nowacek. Followed by Q&A. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Free. 769–4010.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus.** *Every Monday.* Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Vitosha Guest Haus Concert Hall, 1917 Washtenaw at Berkshire. Free. 973–6084.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Corinne Hillebrandt. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 663–6297.*

Niamh Parsons: The Ark. Traditional Irish ballads and airs by this former Arcady lead vocalist who has been favorably compared to June Tabor and Maura O'Connell. "Niamh Parsons's voice has always set her apart from most of her peers, its belly-deep sigh lending the slightest of ditties a gravitas, and her unapologetic joy in the act of singing a reminder of the way in which stories can buoy the spirit like nothing else," says *Irish Times* reviewer Siobhan Long. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Monday.* Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

FILMS

MTF. "Night Watch" (Timur Bekmambetov, 2005). See 3 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

7 TUESDAY

Social Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tuesday & Wednesday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. *9:30–11:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 12:45–3:30 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. 25¢ contribution for prizes. 769–5911.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Tuesday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular word game. *10 a.m.–noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tuesday.* All seniors invited to try **"Improv for Fun"** (March 7), a stimulating session of improvisational theater led by Empatheater artistic director Sara Schreiber, or participate in the social discussion group **"Let's Talk About"** (March 14, 21, & 28). Followed by **mah-jongg** (noon–2 p.m.) and **creative crafts** (1–3 p.m.), including quilting, knitting, and scrapbooking. *10:30 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**Peace Vigil.** *Every Tuesday.* All invited to gather to call for peace. *Noon–1 p.m., Federal Bldg., Liberty at Fifth Ave. Free. 668–1358.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** *Every Tuesday.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Bring a bag lunch; cookies & coffee served. Today: SUNY-Albany Chinese professor James Hargett discusses **"How and Why Did Mount Emei Become a Buddhist Mountain?"** Also this month: Indiana University East Asian languages & cultures professor Robert Eno discusses **"Confucius' Earliest Interpreter: The Disciple Duanmu Si and the Shaping of a Confucian Message"** (March 14), University of California-San Diego history and Chinese studies professor Paul Pickowicz discusses **"Underground Filmmaking in China: Good News or Bad News for the Communist Party?"** (March 21), and University of California political science professor Kevin O'Brien discusses **"Protest in the Chinese Countryside: Opportunities and Perceptions"** (March 28). *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★**"Creative Catharsis": Ann Arbor District Library.** Community High School creative writing teacher Judith DeWoskin offers writing tips to kids in grades 6–12. *4–5:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Women's Health, Domestic and Global: An Activist's View": Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by U-M OB/GYN and women's studies professor Timothy Johnson. *4–5:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall. Free. 764–9537.*

★**"Calder and the Transatlantique": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Lecture by Phillips Collection (Washington, D.C.) curator Elizabeth Phillips. In conjunction with the current Institute for the Humanities exhibit *"Fetes"* (see Galleries). *4 p.m., Osterman Common Room, 0520 Rackham. Free. 936–3518.*

★**Linton Kwesi Johnson: U-M English Department.** Reading by this Jamaican-born British dub poet who recites his verse in Jamaican Creole over a reggae soundtrack. A member of the Black Panther Party in the 1970s, Johnson has kept his work rooted in a protest against racial and social injustices. A *Popmatters* critic praises Johnson for his "ability to combine the political with the personal." *5 p.m., Residential College Auditorium, 701 East University. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tuesday.* All knitters invited to bring their current projects to work on and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 420 Detroit St. Free. 945–3035.*

★**Common Thread.** *March 7 & 21.* All invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. *7–9 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.*

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OR CALL (734) 929-9736

"British Cheese": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's manager Gauri Thergaonkar and Zingerman's cheese expert Carlos Souffront discuss and offer taste samples of various British cheeses. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's, 422 Detroit St. $20. Reservations required. 663–3400.*

"Attaining Lasting Satisfaction": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Tuesday.* Talks by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. Today's topic: **"Entertaining the Spiritual Path."** Also this month: **"The Elephant's Footprint: The Power of Reflecting on Impermanence"** (March 14), **"Lineage"** (March 21), and **"Patience Is the Best Protection"** (March 28). *7–8:30 p.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. $10 (students & seniors, $5). 994–3387.*

★**"Untold Truths: Raising Children Naturally": Whole Foods Market.** Local holistic health practitioner Cindy Klement discusses healthy diets for children. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"New Discoveries in 21st-Century Astronomy": 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads.** Talk by NASA astronomer **Sten Odenwald,** author of *The Astronomy Cafe* and other astronomy books for general audiences. In conjunction with 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Ann Arbor Area Writer's Group: Arborland Borders.** *Every Tuesday.* Local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. *7–9 p.m., Borders art & architecture section, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 665–8194, 769–4406.*

Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Reading by **Buddy Wakefield,** a renowned slam poet from Seattle who won the 2004 and 2005 World Poetry Slams and the 2004 International Poetry Festival championship in Rotterdam. His poems are known for their raw, resonant humor and passion and their visionary social and cultural themes. Also, open mike readings, which usually draw an engaging variety of accomplished poets and entertaining monologists in verse, and a "poetry slam," in which poets read one of their works in each round of a tournament-style competition for a $10 prize and the heady adrenaline rush that accompanies victory. *7–10 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Heidelberg restaurant), 215 N. Main. $5. For information, call Larry Francis at 426–3451.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tuesday.* Historical and traditional English dances. Today: callers Ray Bantle, Dan Blim, and Marty Wilson with music by David West and Donna Baird. Also this month: callers Arlene Kindel and Carol Jacobs with music by Childgrove (March 14), callers Shirley Harden and Steve Gold with music by West, Baird, and Nawal Motawi (March 21), and callers Greg Meismer and Alan Simpson-Vlach with music by Motawi, Glenn Dong, Betsy Foote, and Betsy McCabe (March 28). No partner needed; all dances taught. Wear comfy flat shoes with some grip (running shoes are OK). *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. $6 (students $5, children free). 665–7704.*

★**Sweet Adelines County Connection.** *Every Tuesday.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 40–member barbershop harmony chorus. *7–10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($20 monthly dues for those who join). 480–8843.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** *Every Tuesday.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance for instructions. For information, call Gerald Beamish at 427–9140.*

★**Tina Dico: Liberty Borders.** This Danish singer-songwriter, the vocalist of the English electronica band Zero 7, performs songs from her debut CD, *In the Red,* which a *Billboard* reviewer called "an emotional journey, with themes of heartbreak and love leading the way." Also, signing. *7:30 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

Track Workout: Ann Arbor Track Club. *Every Tuesday.* Runners (and walkers) of all ages and abilities welcome. Now in their 27th year, the Track Club's workouts are a popular means for runners to train and be timed at various distances. *7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M indoor track, S. State at Hoover. U-M pass ($5 per day) required. 663–9740.*

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Jeremy Kittel performs with bassist Andrew Kratzat and guitarist Bob Gerics at Saline High School Mar. 25.

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *March 7, 14, & 21.* Tonight: the club's annual members slide competition. Also this month: club member Ruth Pinkus, a successful art fair participant, discusses **"How to Fair Well"** (March 14), and the annual members print competition. *7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School, room 111, 1655 Newport Rd. Free ($15 annual dues for those who join). 327–4781.*

★**"Introduction to Anthroposophy": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Informal monthly talk on our relationship to the cosmos as described by Rudolf Steiner. Tonight: local biodynamic farmers and gardeners Jean Yeager and Celeste Craig discuss **"Biodynamic Agriculture."** *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. Wheelchair-accessible. 485–3764.*

"Invisible Children." Screening of teen filmmakers Jason Russell, Bobby Bailey, & Laren Poole's acclaimed 2005 documentary, a fast-paced, gripping examination of the effects of Uganda's long-running civil war on its children. *8–10 p.m., U-M Business Administration, 701 Tappan. Free. 891–7915.*

★**German Speakers' Round Table.** *Every Tuesday.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Co., 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 665–2931.*

Jesse Blumberg: Kerrytown Concert House. This young New Jersey-based baritone performs works by Schumann and other composers, a preview of a recital he will present this month in New York. Blumberg is accompanied by U-M piano professor **Martin Katz.** *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Ellis: The Ark. Up-and-coming young Texas-born, Minneapolis-based lesbian pop-folk singer-songwriter known for her exuberant, heartfelt songs on a variety of personal themes. Her latest CD, *Evidence of Joy,* is a live recording that was produced by a group of her fans. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena Sports Grille and Bar.** *Every Tuesday.* All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts, hats, and gift certificates. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. *10 p.m., The Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222–9999.*

FILMS

MTF. "Night Watch" (Timur Bekmambetov, 2005). See 3 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

8 WEDNESDAY

★**"Music for the Health of It": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** Talk by local registered nurse Dianne Baker, a music and health consultant and composer. *1 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Reservations required. 998–9353.*

★**"Chi Kung": The Joyful Body.** Joyful Body co-owner Todd Sargeant discusses and demonstrates this technique that combines meditation and movement. *5–5:30 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 827–2639.*

Family Literacy Night: Jewish Community Center Early Childhood Center. A variety of literacy activities and games based on Jewish stories. For families with kids in preschool through grade 2. *6–8 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $15 per family. Reservations required. 971–0990.*

★**Ann Arbor Magic Club.** All amateur and professional magicians invited to an evening of socializing and discussion of the magical arts. *7 p.m., Georgetown Country Club, 1365 King George Blvd. Free. 482–9523.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** *March 8 & 15.* All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. This month's topic is **"Angels in Earthsuits."** The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. *7 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 971–3455.*

★**"Green Fingers": Garden Club of Ann Arbor.** Screening of a video about the Hampton Court Palace (London, England) Flower and Garden Show. *7 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 665–7072, 996–8942.*

★**Richard Singleton: St. Aidan's Church.** Talk by this former longtime St. Aidan's rector, in commemoration of the church's 40th anniversary. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a soup supper. *7 p.m., Northside Presbyterian/St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. 663–5503.*

★**"The Huron River": Trout Unlimited.** Talks by Huron River Watershed Council director Laura Rubin and Dirk Fischbach, a local fly-fishing expert and author of *The Fly Fisher's Huron. 7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 222–9776.*

Gen Kelsang Khedrub: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. *March 8, 15, & 29.* Talks by this Buddhist, the resident teacher of the Vajrayana Buddhist Center in Chicago. Tonight's topic: **"Exchanging Self with Others."** Also this month: **"Universal Compassion: A Buddhist Approach"** (March 15) and **"Accepting Defeat and Offering the Victory"** (March 29). *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. $10 suggested donation. 665–2757.*

★**Brandt Goldstein: Nicola's Books.** This Yale law grad reads from ***Storming the Court,*** his account of a team of law students who in 1992 challenged the government in a case at Guantanamo Bay over detention of Haitian refugees that went to the Supreme Court. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Evolution of Early Life: Lateral Gene Transfer": U-M Explore Evolution Theme Semester Public Lecture Series.** Lecture by Dalhousie University (Halifax, Nova Scotia) biochemistry professor W. Ford Doolittle. Reception follows. *7 p.m., 1800 Chemistry, 930 North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★**"Revolutionary Scientists: The Legacy of Albert Einstein": 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads.** Talk by U-M atmospheric, oceanic, and space sciences professor Thomas Zurbuchen. In conjunction with 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Bethany McLean: EMU Office of Campus Life.** Talk about corporate ethics by this *Fortune* magazine senior writer who broke the Enron story in 2001. She is coauthor of ***The Smartest Guys in the Room: The Amazing Rise and Scandalous Fall of Enron.*** *7–8:30 p.m., EMU McKenny Union Ballroom, Washtenaw at W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–3045.*

★**"Belonging: Faith in the Neighborhood": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Network on Interfaith Concerns in the Anglican Communion staff member **Lucinda Mosher** reads from her new book exploring the theologies and rituals through which America's many minority religions create a sense of belonging, and how these religions handle life's stages. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Fiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of John Kennedy Toole's posthumously published cult novel ***A Confederacy of Dunces,*** a tragicomic Dickensian tale about the misadventures of a slothful 30-year-old medievalist living at home with his mother in New Orleans. He is a self-centered modern Quixote who is compelled by a series of mishaps to seek employment in the French Quarter. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 973–0846.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** EMU history professor emeritus Les Scherer leads a discussion of ***Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age,*** Kevin Boyle's book about a sensational murder case that was a key episode in the early history of the civil rights movement and race relations in Detroit. *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 111 E. Ann. Free. 369–2499.*

★**All-Orchestra Festival Concert: Greenhills School.** Deborah Henderson directs this student ensemble in a program it will perform at the State Orchestra Festival. Followed by a reception. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 205–4057.*

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Citizen Improv": Improv Inferno. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Chili's Comedy Dojo": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Fast-paced show featuring stand-up comedy by 15 recent graduates of veteran comic and *Tonight Show* writer Chili Challis's Comedy Dojo. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

Ted Leo & the Pharmacists: The Blind Pig. *All ages admitted.* Veteran D.C.-based rock band known for its blend of intelligent, catchy songwriting with punk power and drive. Opening acts are **The Duke Spirit,** an acclaimed English garage-rock quintet fronted by vocalist Leila Moss, and **Les Aus,** a neopsychedelic metal-inflected folk-rock band. *8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "Night Watch" (Timur Bekmambetov, 2005). See 3 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **The Planet. "Hail"** (Fred Levinson, 1973). Biting 1973 satire about a president who marshals a secret army of vigilantes and suppresses protestors in detention camps. FREE. 994–4545. The Planet (1112½ South University), 8 p.m.

9 THURSDAY

★**Robot Competitions: FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Great Lakes Regional.** *March 9–11.* Teams from 63 area high schools bring their homemade robots, ranging from gangly Rube Goldberg contraptions to sleek predatory machines, to battle each other in contests in which each robot attempts the daredevil feat of suspending itself from a bar 10 feet from the floor. The competition highlight comes with the exciting finals on Sunday (times TBA). *8 a.m.–6 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt, Ypsilanti. Free. (800) 871–8326.*

★**International Health Policy Brown Bag: U-M School of Public Health.** *March 9 & 30.* Talks by U-M scholars. Today: public policy professor Sharon Maccini discusses **"Policy and Socioeconomic Determinants of Child Health in Developing Countries."** Also this month: health management and policy professor Scott Greer on **"The Europeanization of National Health Policies: What Can We Expect and How Will it Matter"?** (March 30). *Noon–1:30 p.m., suite 331, 611 Church. Free. 764–8094.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** *March 9, 16, 23, & 30.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: Penn State educational theory and policy program chair Gerald LeTendre discusses **"Global Trends and Changes in Japanese Teacher Work Patterns."** Also this month: MIT foreign languages and literature professor Ian Condry talks about **"Hip-Hop, Japan, and Cultural Globalization: Japanese Rappers Look at 9/11"** (March 16), Hokkaido Information University business administration professor Arudou Debito examines **"Japanese Only: The Otaru Onsens Case and Racial Discrimination in Japan"** (March 23), and Smithsonian Institution Freer Gallery ceramics curator Louise Cort on **"A Tosa Potter's Study Trip to Edo: Ceramic Research and Development in the 17th Century"** (March 30). *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6307.*

★**"Museums and Civic Engagement": U-M Museum Studies.** U-M American culture professor Julie Ellison interviews International Coalition of Historic Site Museums of Conscience director Liz Sevcenko about the ways historic sites and museums inspire social awareness and activism. *4 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 936–6678.*

★**"Different Channels, Different Truths": Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by filmmaker **Jehane Noujaim,** the director of the Al-Jazeera documentary *Control Room* (see films listing below). *4–5:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall. Free. 764–9537.*

★**"Hot Topics in International Law": U-M Center for International and Comparative Law.** *March 9, 13, & 20.* Talks by U-M and visiting legal scholars. Today: Francis Jacobs, an advocate general for the

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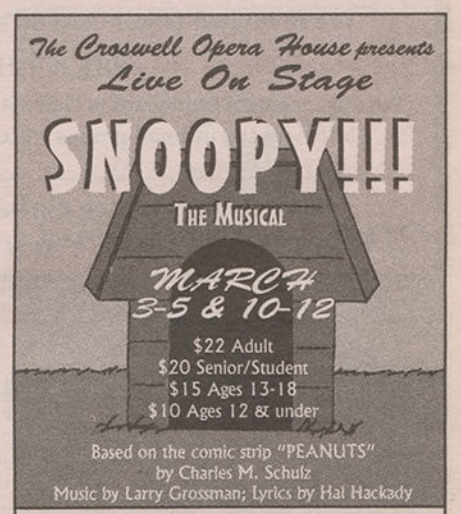

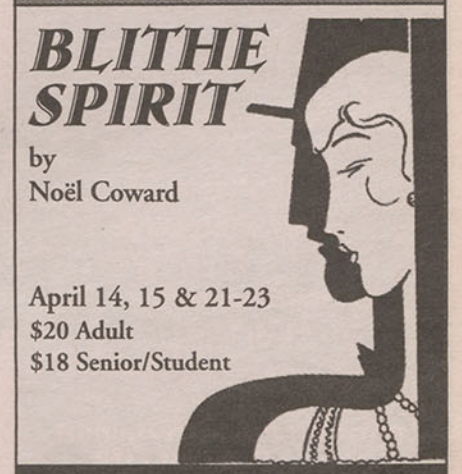

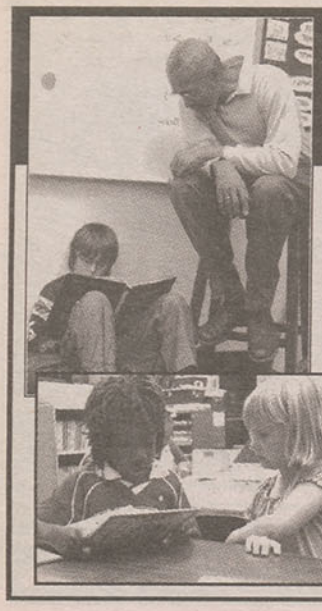

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Spring Session Starts March 27
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New Wednesday Night Class 6:45 p.m.
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9 THURSDAY *continued*

Court of Justice of the European Communities, discusses **"From the Sovereignty of Nations Towards a European Constitution."** Also this month: Yale law professor Oona Hathaway talks about **"Strong States, Strong World: Why International Law Succeeds and Fails and What We Should Do about It"** (March 13), and retired Japanese Supreme Court justice Itsuo Sonobe examines **"The Queen of Japan: A Monarchy Reinvented and Reinforced"** (March 20). Refreshments. *4–5:15 p.m., 116 Hutchins Hall, 625 S. State. Free. 764–0535.*

★**Weekly Lecture: U-M Center for Russian and East European Studies.** *March 9, 16, & 23.* Today: Texas A&M anthropology professor Cynthia Werner discusses **"When Science Fails the Public: Conflicting Perceptions of Risk after Decades of Nuclear Testing in Kazakhstan."** Also this month: University of Texas history professor Joan Neuberger discusses **"The Thinking-Feeling Spectator: Eisenstein's Film Theory for Historians of the Visual"** (March 16), and World Bank social development specialist Kathleen Kuehnast discusses **"Better a Hundred Friends than a Hundred Rubles? A Study of Social Networks and Poverty in Kyrgyzstan"** (March 23). *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**Jay Allison: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** Talk by this independent broadcast journalist who coproduces NPR's *This I Believe. 5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–0397.*

★**Auction Preview: Greenhills School.** A chance to preview and bid on items in the school's annual auction. Also, fun family carnival games, a buffet dinner, live music by the school's jazz band, and raffle. The auction takes place at 5:30 p.m. on March 11 ($125 in advance only). *5:30 p.m., Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, 8768 North Territorial Rd., Plymouth. Free. 205–4081.*

★**Reiki: Center for Intuitive Health.** Local reiki master Ray Golden discusses this healing technique and gives minitreatments. *7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–9724.*

★**Reiki Introduction.** Local reiki master Suzy Wienckowski explains the Usui system of this gentle, hands-on technique for reducing stress, relieving pain, and facilitating healing and personal growth. Followed by free minitreatments. *7–9 p.m., location TBA. Free. Preregistration required. 665–8665.*

★**"Back Care Basics": Guerreso Chiropractic.** Local chiropractor Kathy Guerreso leads a series of flexibility and strengthening exercises, for everyday activities or sports. Dress in comfy fitness or yoga clothes. Vitamin water, juices provided. *7 p.m., 3039 Stone School Rd. Free. Preregistration requested. 677–0823.*

★**Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club.** All invited to help members make a large bird stand for the raffle at the club's summer show. Also, bring materials to make your own bird stand or play gym; tools provided. Bring your bird. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main. Free. 662–4582.*

"Stouts": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about more than 2 dozen stouts from around the world, including Irish, English oatmeal, coffee, Russian Imperial, and other specialty stouts. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

★**Ann Arbor Socrates Cafe.** All invited to join a philosophical discussion of the nature of the self and the world that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. The local Socrates Cafe is affiliated with the Society for Philosophical Inquiry, founded by Christopher Phillips, author of *Six Questions of Socrates. 7–8:30 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Freespace (3rd floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 668–6583.*

★**"Libraries, Collectors, and Dealers Versus Thieves": Michigan Map Society.** Chicago map dealer George Ritzlin discusses recent thefts from large map collections. *7 p.m., Clements Library, 909 South University Ave. Free. 995–2426.*

★**"The Beak of the Finch": 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads.** All invited to join a discussion, led by AADL and U-M Exhibit Museum staff members, of science writer Jonathan Weiner's Pulitzer Prize–winning book on the work of Peter and Rosemary Grant, who spent 20 years studying the Galapagos Island finches that inspired Darwin's theory of evolution. Other Ann Arbor Reads programs this month include talks on related topics at the library on March 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, & 29, and a discussion of the book at the Jewish Community Center on March 20 and Leslie Science Center and Liberty Borders on March 26 (see listings). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200*

★**"Different Channels, Different Truths": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by Jehane Noujaim, who directed the Al-Jazeera documentary *Control Room* (see Films listing, below). *7 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 647–0774.*

★**"Voices of the New Arab Public: Iraq, Al Jazeera, and Middle East Politics Today": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Williams College political science professor **Marc Lynch** reads from his new study of the ways the new Arab media have challenged the status quo by encouraging open debate about Iraq, Palestine, Islamism, Arab identity, and other vital political and social issues. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**"Fight Night 2006": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** *March 9–11.* Adam Batteau and Rob Sulaver direct U-M student actors in a program of fight scenes from movies and plays, including *Star Wars, The Princess Bride, Fight Club, Romeo and Juliet, Zastrozzi,* and an original play by Jeff Blim. Also, 2 improvised scenes—a bar brawl and a morning-after scene. *7 p.m., Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764–6800.*

★**Ypsilanti Community Band.** Jerry Robbins conducts this 50–member adult band in a program featuring some of the best band music composed since 1980. The program includes a medley from *Miss Saigon,* Alfred Reed's *The Hounds of Spring,* David Holsinger's *On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss,* and *Let There Be Peace (In Honor of the Lives Lost to Terrorism on 9/11). 7:30 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 332–7941.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of *Rosenbach,* Edwin Wolf and John Fleming's 1960 biography of the rare book seller. Refreshments. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 111 E. Ann. Free. 669–0451.*

2006 Huaren Cultural Show: U-M Huaren Cultural Association. An evening of entertainment showcasing Chinese, Hong Kong, Singaporean, and Taiwanese culture, including Wushu martial arts, a dragon dance, Christian body worship, the a cappella chorus Kopitonez, and more. The over 200 performers and 1,000 audience members make Huaren (Mandarin for "people of Chinese descent") one of the largest student cultural shows on campus. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $6 in advance in the Angell Hall fishbowl and the undergraduate library, $8 at the door. 763–TKTS.*

Whit Hill and the Postcards: The Ark. Quartet led by this multitalented local performance artist (aka Whitley Setrakian) who writes richly imaginative country-folk originals that are often spiked with her offbeat sense of humor. Other members are keyboardist Al Hill (Whitley's husband), bassist Pat Prouty, and drummer Tim Gahagan. Tonight the band celebrates the release of *Farsighted,* the eagerly anticipated follow-up to its acclaimed debut CD, *We Are Here.* Proceeds from CD sales tonight benefit the Ark. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Vienna Philharmonic: University Musical Society. Riccardo Muti conducts this 164-year-old symphony orchestra, widely considered the world's finest. "When Mr. Muti joins the Vienna Philharmonic in Mozart, he often seems to be listening in admiration as much as conducting," a *New York Times* reviewer noted in a review of a recent Mozart birthday concert in Salzburg. "Especially in slow movements, he tends to stop his baton or even drop his arms and let the orchestra play unimpeded." The program: Mozart's *Haffner Symphony,* Strauss's *Death and Transfiguration,* and 2 Schubert works, the *Tragic Symphony* and the overture to Hofmann's melodrama *Die Zauberharfe,* known as the "Overture to Rosamunde." Preceded at 6 p.m. by a black-tie-optional dinner (tickets $75, 764–8489) in the Michigan League Ballroom that features a talk by U-M music professor Steven Whiting. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$150 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Andy Kindler: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 9–11.* Ann Arbor debut of this popular veteran stand-up comic who's known for his acerbic observations about the entertainment industry. A frequent guest on late-night TV, he's probably best known from his recurring role in *Everybody Loves Raymond* and from his stint as a correspondent on *The Daily Show.* Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liber-*

ty. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.

★U-M Poetry Grand Slam: U-M Museum of Art Second Thursday Performance Series. A dozen student poets read their best poems, in a battle to win a spot on the U-M's nationally recognized poetry slam team. Opening act TBA. *8:30 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

Of Montreal: The Blind Pig. *All ages admitted.* Veteran indie pop-rock band from Athens, Georgia, whose music has been described as a blend of the Byrds, late Beatles, early Pink Floyd, and *Pet Sounds*-era Beach Boys. Opening act is **Fashion Flesh,** a one-man electronica band from Flint. *8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, $12 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

★Local Music Night: Dreamland Theater Local Music Thursdays. Double bill. Acoustic folk-punk with a raw dark edge by local singer-songwriter **Jason Voss,** and minimalistic, spacey improvisational art-pop by the local band **Fields of Industry.** *10 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

"March Improv Madness": Improv Inferno. See 2 Thursday. 8 & 10 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Night Watch" (Timur Bekmambetov, 2005). See 3 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. "Control Room"** (Jehane Noujaim, 2004). Engaging documentary portrait of the Arabic news service Al-Jazeera. Followed by Q&A with the director. FREE. 764–0350. Location and time TBA.

10 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). *March 10 & 24.* A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *9:30–11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6. 997–1553.*

★Lecture Series: U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. *Every Friday beginning March 10.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: MIT anthropology professor Susan Slyomovics discusses **"History, Human Rights Fieldwork, and Witness Testimony."** Also this month: U-M political science professor Mark Tessler on **"Conducting Research on Political Attitudes in the Arab World"** (March 17), U-M Near Eastern studies student Vika Gardner discusses **"On Archives, Friendship, and Harassment: Historical Research in Uzbekistan"** (March 24), and U-M Islamic art history professor Sussan Babaie on **"Digging into the Urban History of Kerman"** (March 31). *11 a.m.–noon, 3050 Frieze, 105 S. State. Free. 764–0350.*

Gem Show: GemStreet USA. *March 10–12.* Some 15–20 vendors from around the country show and sell gem-related items, including crystal quartz singing bowls, faceted gemstones, spheres and wands of crystal quartz, rough and polished minerals, gold and silver jewelry, handblown glass, jewelry-making supplies, minerals, turquoise, fossils, pearls, and beads. *11 a.m.–7 p.m. (Mar. 10), 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Mar. 11), & 11 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mar. 12), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $6 (students & seniors, $4; kids 12 & under, free). Admission ticket good for entire weekend. (216) 521–4367.*

★Lenten Recital Series: American Guild of Organists. See 3 Friday. Today: students of U-M organ professor Marilyn Mason, 12:15 p.m.

★"Colonial Visual Culture": U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Talk by Harvard history professor Tom Cummins, an expert on colonial Latin American art. *1 p.m., 180 Tappan, 519 S. State. Free. 647–0844.*

★The Yiddish Group: Jewish Community Center. All invited for readings and discussion of Yiddish literature selections TBA. Also, singing of Yiddish songs. *1:30–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★"The End of Gay Culture?": U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Talk by University of Puerto Rico dean of graduate studies Ruben Rios Avila. *2:30 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 647–0844.*

★"Manilow Competition": EMU Music Department. EMU undergrad vocalists and instrumentalists in all styles—classical, jazz, & pop—compete in this scholarship competition funded by pop singer Barry Manilow. *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

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March 15 7:30 p.m.
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High School
Introductory Evening
March 21 7:30 p.m.
2230 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor
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10 FRIDAY *continued*

★"Domingos Sodre: A Yoruba Priest in Bahia, Brazil, c. 1810s–1887": U-M Atlantic Studies Initiative. Talk by Universidade Federal da Bahia (Brazil) history professor Joao Reis. *4:30 p.m., Michigan League Kalamazoo Room. Free. 936–6480.*

★U-M Center for South Asian Studies. *March 10, 17, & 31.* Talks by visiting scholars. Today: independent local scholar Rich Freeman discusses **"Vagrant Gods in Cultured Fields: Tantric Worship in the Civilizational Ethnology of Kerala."** Also this month: U-M history professor Sumathi Ramaswamy talks about **"The Conceit of the Globe in Mughal Visual Practice"** (March 17), and University of Delhi English professor Harish Trivedi discusses **"Gandhi, English, and the Subalterns"** (March 31). *5 p.m., 2609 SSWB (Mar. 10), 1636 SSWB (Mar. 17), 1644 SSWB (March 31), 1080 South University. Free. 764–5261.*

★"Nifty or Noxious: Invasive Plants": U-M School of Natural Resources. Two talks and a panel discussion on the ecological effect of invasive plants. Speakers: U-M herbarium curator Anton Reznicek and U-M natural resources professor Bob Grese. Panelists: Stewardship Network executive director Lisa Brush, city natural areas preservationist Dave Borneman, natural areas restoration consultant Sylvia Taylor, and U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens natural area specialists Jeff Plakke and Connie Bailie. *5:45–8:45 p.m., 1040 Dana Bldg., 440 Church. Free. 615–9474.*

★Family Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. Families with kids age 5 & under invited to a secular Shabbat celebration that includes candle lighting, singing, crafts, and stories. Followed by a vegetarian potluck; bring a dish to pass. *6 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

★"Fight Night 2006": U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 9 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

★"Hurricane Help": St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Members of the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans discuss "Operation Helping Hands," a program that helps New Orleanians clean up and reoccupy their homes. *7 p.m., St. Francis, 2250 E. Stadium Blvd. Free. 821–2121.*

★John Kitzman: EMU Music Department. This Dallas Symphony principal trombonist performs Eric Ewazen's Sonata, Zygmunt Stojowski's Fantasie, Kazimierz Serocki's Sonatina, Jacques Casterede's Sonatina, and Leonard Bernstein's *Mippy II*. Piano accompanist is WMU resident artist Yu-Lien The. *7:30 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★U-M Women's Lacrosse vs. WMU. *8 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764–0247.*

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. English country dancing for experienced dancers. Fast pace, with limited walk-throughs. Caller Alisa Dodson with music by Debbie Jackson and Brad Battey. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10. 665–7704.*

"Improv with the Vegans": Dreamland Theater. *March 10 & 24.* The Detroit-based troupe **Vegan Meat Locker** presents a fast-paced, hugely enjoyable torrent of improv comedy featuring ridiculously absurd scenarios, many based on audience suggestions, and quicksilver humor with hilariously deadpan hairpin twists. Opening act TBA. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. $5. 657–2337.*

★Symphony Band Chamber Winds: U-M School of Music. Michael Haithcock conducts this music-student ensemble in Mozart's lighthearted Serenade no. 11, Warren Benson's *The Passing Bell*, Betsy Jolas's *Preludes, Fanfares, and Interludes*, and 3 works by Grammy- and Pulitzer Prize-winning U-M music professor William Bolcom, Concert Suite, "Song," and "Machine." *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

Sunkwa: Canterbury House. High-energy, complex Ghanaian drum and dance, with elements of world music, by this ensemble. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $5–$10 donation. 764–3162.*

"A Celebration of Benjamin Britten": Kerrytown Concert House. Local and area performers perform a program of Britten works. Performers are tenor Brian Pfaltzgraff, hornist Sandra Clark, cellist Renee Goubeaux, pianist Kevin Bylsma, and narrator Barbara Barkan. Program: Canticle 1: "My Beloved is Mine," Canticle 2: "Abraham and Isaac," Canticle 3: "Still Falls the Rain," the Sonata for Cello and Piano, and *The Heart of the Matter. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Mady Kouyate & The Heat of Africa: The Ark. Various styles of West African music by this local ensemble of 5 musicians and 2 dancers led by Kouyate, a Senegalese-born, Malian-trained singer-musician who plays the *kora*, a 21-string gourd that produces a sound somewhere between that of a lute and a harp. Their repertoire includes folktales with traditional melodies performed in the traditional style, with kora and percussion, and in contemporary dance-pop arrangements with a band that also features guitar, bass guitar, and viola. *8 p.m., The Ark. $12.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Marc Bamuthi Joseph: University Musical Society. UMS debut of this California-based performance artist, a winner of the 1999 National Poetry Slam with Team San Francisco who combines spoken word, poetry, theater, West African and tap dance, and live music in works addressing contemporary social problems. Tonight he performs ***Word Becomes Flesh,*** an autobiographical piece composed of reenactments of events described in a series of letters from an unwed single father to his unborn son during the mother's pregnancy. "[Bamuthi Joseph's] remarkable vocal variety and gestural deftness made every scene come alive," says a *New York Times* critic. Joseph is accompanied by guitarist Paris King, bassist Sekou Gibson, and drummer Ajayi Jackson. *8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $12–$32 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Broken Glass": U-M Residential College Players. *March 10–12.* RC students perform in Arthur Miller's play, set in Brooklyn in 1938, about a man determined to find out why his attractive, level-headed wife has suddenly lost the ability to walk after seeing images of Kristallnacht in Germany. *8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Tickets $5 (students, $3) at the door only. 647–4354.*

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Andy Kindler: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 9 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. *March 10 & 24.* All invited to peer through the telescope on the Angell Hall roof for celestial visions. Club members are on hand to answer questions. *9–11 p.m., 5th-floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left). Free. 936–3626.*

★Ursula the Matador and Aleena Simone: The Planet. Double bill. Singer-songwriter Ursula the Matador sings her moody, minor-key folk-punk guitar ballads in a voice of icy clarity and sharpness, and Aleena Simone also performs folk-punk originals. *9 p.m., The Planet, 1112½ South University. Free. 994–4545.*

Stephanie Nakasian Quartet: Firefly Club. This New York-bred jazz vocalist, who currently teaches at William & Mary, performs straight-ahead jazz standards and ballads, sometimes flavored with Latin and funk stylings. She is backed by a trio led by her husband, bop pianist Hod O'Brien. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $15 in advance and at the door. 665–9090.*

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Heart of Gold" (Jonathan Demme, 2006). *March 10–16.* Reflective, plaintive Neil Young performance film showcasing songs from Young's newest CD, *Heart of Gold*. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **U-M Center for Japanese Studies Asian Film Series. "Mysterious Object at Noon"** (Apichatpong Weerasethakul, 2000). Fresh, enchanting mixture of documentary and fictional segments about the lives of rural and urban Thais that has been compared to the films of Luis Bunuel and David Lynch. Thai, subtitles. FREE. 764–6307. 1636 SSWB (1080 South University). Noon.

11 SATURDAY

★Restoration Work Day: U-M Nichols Arboretum. All invited to help Arb director Bob Grese and Arb staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided; bring loppers or pruners if you wish. *9 a.m.–noon, meeting location TBA. Free. 998–9540.*

folk-rock

Billy Bragg
Love, lust, and socialism

Sometimes I think even my friends who've heard Billy Bragg's music are coming to him backwards. They picked up 1998's *Mermaid Avenue,* Bragg's collaboration with Wilco that set Woody Guthrie's unpublished lyrics to music, but I'm not sure they ever dug into the albums that earned Bragg the keys to the Guthrie archives. This is the perfect time to revisit or discover Bragg's glory years, because he's coming to the Ark on a tour to promote the re-release of four classic albums (each with a second CD of bonus tracks) and a boxed set compiling them.

Bragg thrilled the British independent-music scene in 1983 with *Life's a Riot with Spy vs. Spy,* his raucous solo electric debut, a seven-song burst of blistering guitar and ultra-witty lyrics that mixed love, lust, and socialism. The debut and 1984's *Brewing Up with Billy Bragg* (long available together on the single CD *Back to Basics,* now reissued separately) announced a new voice: a guitar hero influenced by Clash-style punk rock with an earnest troubadour stance inspired by folk tradition. On "A New England," his signature love and antilove song, he veered from heartbreaker to heartbroken, letting a girl go with little regret, then wishing on two shooting stars and realizing they're satellites: "Is it wrong to wish on space hardware?/I wish, I wish, I wish you cared."

Bragg's third album, *Talking with the Taxman about Poetry* (1986), established his music's current mix of political rockers, folk-rocky romps, and honky-tonk and vaudevillian flourishes. This time, the romantic cad also sang the empathetic "Levi Stubbs' Tears," a song about a battered woman finding solace in the songs of Motown's Four Tops. The political anthems, which made him a leading voice in the British guitar armies raging against Margaret Thatcher's conservative revolution, also included "Help Save the Youth of America," a protest song about American carelessness and call to conscience for his fans here: "You can fight for democracy at home/And not in some foreign land," he sang (and I guarantee he'll sing it again this month).

Marriage softened Bragg's caddish spark, he doesn't have Thatcher to kick around anymore, and his more recent self-penned albums haven't reached the old heights. Yet he's managed to age with dignity. In Britain, at age forty-eight, he's an elder statesman of protest music and left-wing activism: he's written opinion pieces for national dailies, campaigned to make the House of Lords more democratic, hosted a radio show, appeared on TV talk shows, and organized an on-line vote-swapping campaign that helped take two seats in Parliament from the Tories.

If you're new to his music, seeing him live is still the best introduction. He talks to the audience at length between songs as if he's catching up with old friends one minute and inspiring a political rally the next. I've taken many friends to Bragg gigs over the years, and while one couple was turned off by the chatter, the rest left utterly charmed and converted.

Billy Bragg plays the Ark on Tuesday, March 21.

—Erick Trickey

Huron Gun Collectors. *March 11 & 12.* Some 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment, including antiques and collectibles. Food concessions. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Admission $4. (810) 227–1637.*

★**"Sensational Cenozoic": U-M Exhibit Museum/ Ann Arbor District Library.** *March 11, 18, & 19 (different locations).* Family-oriented program of activities exploring changes in life forms since the extinction of the dinosaurs. Participants can create a model of a whale or whale ancestor and see how it uses its size, its tail, and perhaps even its legs. For kids ages 6–11 accompanied by a parent. *10–11 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William; & 2:30–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. Preregistration required. 327–4200.*

★**"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department.** *March 11, 18, & 25.* Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M faculty. Today: U-M physics professor Fred Becchetti discusses **"How Old: The Physics of Dating Artifacts."** Also this month: U-M geology professor Henry Pollack on **"Scientific Uncertainty and Public Policy: Moving On Without All the Answers"** (March 18), and U-M English professor Eric Rabkin, author of *Mars: A Tour of the Human Imagination,* on **"Mars and the Evolution of Thought"** (March 25). Breakfast refreshments. *10:30–11:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 501 East University. Free. 764–4437.*

★**"Wellness Consulting": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local naturopath Audrey Blagsvedt. *11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"St. Patty's Day Warm-Up": Busch's "Kids in the Kitchen."** Kids invited to make and eat a tasty veggie dip (veggies provided). Enthusiastic vegetable eaters receive one green cookie. *11 a.m., Busch's, 2240 Main St. Free. 998–2666.*

★**American Girl Club: Barnes & Noble.** All girls ages 8–12 invited to delve into the world of the American Girl collection of historical dolls. This month's discussion book is the American Girls Company anthology ***True Stories: Girls' Inspiring Stories of Courage and Heart.*** *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. Free. 973–0846.*

★**"Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Coffee": Ann Arbor District Library.** Representatives from the People's Food Co-op and the local fair trade and organic coffee company Brewing Hope discuss the origins, preparation, and popularity of coffee and the coffee bean. Free samples of organic coffee. *11 a.m.–noon, AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**2nd Annual Brick Bash! Bricks for Brains.** This public Lego building party for all ages includes several tables stocked with Lego sets. Also, Lego hobbyists from throughout the region display their creations, including everything from robotics and other mechanized creations to scale models of the Ohio State and U-M (still under construction) football stadiums. Lego door prizes. *Noon–6 p.m., Spark Central, 330 E. Liberty (lower level). Free. 637–9249.*

★**48th Annual Southeast Michigan Science Fair.** Display of 400 science projects by area junior and senior high school students. The junior division includes models, collections, and experiments. The senior division includes projects involving biochemistry, microbiology, botany, chemistry, geology, the environment, math, computer science, physics, sociology, and zoology. The top 2 individual and team winners go to the Intel International Science Fair.

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held in May in Phoenix. *Noon–4 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 615–4455.*

★Michigan Invitational: U-M Women's Lacrosse. *March 11 & 12.* Today: The U-M squad plays matches against Illinois (1 p.m.) and Louisville (5:30 p.m.). *1 & 5:30 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764–0247.*

"Cold-Blooded Creatures": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center staff introduce kids to a variety of live snakes, turtles, and frogs. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 per person. Preregistration required. 997–1553.*

Open House: U-M Detroit Observatory. *March 11 & 19.* Docent-guided tour of the photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope that rotates the telescope dome. *1–4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 (U-M students, free) suggested donation. 763–2230.*

"Maple Sugaring": Waterloo Natural History Association. WNHA member Tom Jameson shows how to make maple syrup from tapping the trees and collecting the sap to the finished product. Also, showing of the documentary video *Maple Sugar Farmer. 1:30 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (family, $5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.*

★Dean Karnazes: Arborland Borders. This long-distance runner discusses ***Ultramarathon Man: Confessions of an All-Night Runner,*** his memoir that includes an account of the first marathon held at the South Pole. Also, signing. *2 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.*

★"Animania": U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from TV series. Raffle. *U-M campus admission policy:* No one under 18 admitted without an adult. *5 p.m.–midnight, MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer. Free. www.umich.edu/~animania.*

★Children's Movie: Arborland Borders. *Every Saturday.* Kids (accompanied by a parent) invited to bring teddy bears and watch a family film TBA. Popcorn. *6 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.*

Benefit Dinner: Chinese American Society of Ann Arbor. A Chinese buffet is followed at 7:30 p.m. by a program in the school auditorium that includes performances by local children, martial arts demos, performances of Chinese music on traditional instruments, and traditional and modern dance performances. Also, a chance to quiz a panel of school board candidates. Proceeds benefit a local senior center TBA. *6–10:30 p.m., Clague Middle School, 2616 Nixon Rd. $10 (program only, free). 332–0390.*

Bockbier Fest: Ann Arbor Schwaben Verein. This annual spring festival features a German dinner followed by dancing to **The Sounds of Germany.** Cash bar. *6–11 p.m., UAW Local 892, 601 Woodland, Saline. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. For reservations, call Art French at 662–49648.*

"Under the Worm Moon": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for worms, call for owls, and listen for early frogs. Followed by hot drinks. *7–9 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. Registration fee TBA. ($4 per vehicle park entrance fee.) 449–4437.*

★"Break Forth into Joy!": Temple Beth Emeth. The temple's Kol Halev chorus, the St. Clare's Episcopal Church Adult Choir, and the Vocal Arts Ensemble perform a program of sacred and secular music, separately and massed together. *7 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Free. 665–4744.*

"Prince Darling": Dreamland Theater. See 4 Saturday. 7 p.m.

★"Fight Night 2006": U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 9 Thursday. 7 p.m.

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Minnesota. *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Georgia. *7:30 p.m., Crisler Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the 80s. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance in-

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structor. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $4. 822–2120.*

"Variations": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in Miguel del Aguila's sensuous *Conga Line in Hell* and Brahms's massive Fourth Symphony. Cellist **Yehudi Hanani** joins the orchestra for a performance of Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Rococo Theme* and the world premiere of U-M alum Erika Nelson's *dVRG* for cello and orchestra. The performance is preceded at 7 p.m. by a lecture on the program, with musical examples, by Lipsky. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10–$39 in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, suite 208. $25 dinner-and-concert package available for those ages 21–39. Half-price rush tickets for students with ID at the door only. 994–4801.*

Belcea Quartet: University Musical Society. Known for its energetic yet disciplined style, this British ensemble has been regarded as one of the best young string quartets ever since it won the 2001 Gramophone award for best debut recording. One *Guardian Unlimited* critic praised the group's combination of "weighty fullness with a lyrical lightness of touch." Tonight's performance features Shostakovich's String Quartet no. 3. **Ian Bostridge,** an acclaimed young British tenor known for his dark, silvery voice, and pianist **Julius Drake** join the quartet for the song cycle *On Wenlock Edge,* Vaughan Williams's settings of A. E. Housman poems, and Faure's *La Bonne Chanson. 8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $30–$40 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Blanche: The Ark. Detroit postpunk country and psychobilly garage quintet fronted by former Goober and the Peas front man Dan Miller and his wife, Tracee Miller. Their music combines the intense desperation of the Gun Club, the bone-deep melancholy of the Carter Family, and the creepy playfulness of Lee Hazlewood. Opening act is **Sunshine Doray,** the Detroit cabaret duo of singer-songwriter and pianist Kate Feeny and singer-drummer Deanne Iovan that plays darkly comic pop-folk. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Broken Glass": U-M Residential College Players. See 10 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Andy Kindler: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 9 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

2nd Saturday Swing Dance: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dancing to recorded jump blues, swing, and big-band music. All welcome; no partner necessary. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by lessons ($5). *8:30–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $5 (dance with lesson, $7). 213–0537.*

★**Burn the Flag: The Planet.** Furious wall-of-sound guitar-based thrash by this Detroit punk quartet. *9 p.m., The Planet, 1112½ South University. Free. 994–4545.*

★**"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club.** *March 11 & 25.* Tango dancing to recorded music. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M are not admitted to the Union after 9 p.m., but those who arrive before 9 p.m. may remain through the end of the evening. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Michigan Union University Club. Free. 973–2338.*

Grazyna Auguscik: Firefly Club. This widely heralded Polish-born jazz singer-composer from Chicago who sings in an evocative, satiny alto has won acclaim for her long-lined lyrical phrasing, rhythmic authority, muscular arrangements, and precise, jubilant scatting. "Auguscik is a jazz rarity—a vocalist who, by dint of temperament and training, refuses to rely on mere sentimentality," says *Playboy* jazz critic Neil Tesser. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $15 in advance and at the door. 665–9090.*

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

U-M Campus Chapel. "Grand Canyon" (Lawrence Kasdan, 1991). When a rich white man is threatened by a gang after his luxury car breaks down in a poor black neighborhood, a tow truck driver defuses the situation, prompting the driver and some other characters to reexamine long-held prejudices. FREE. 668–7421. Campus Chapel (1236 Washtenaw Ct.), 8 p.m.

12 SUNDAY

★**Michigan Invitational: U-M Women's Lacrosse.** See 11 Saturday. Today: The U-M squad plays matches against Texas A&M (9 a.m.) and Lindenwood (1:30 p.m.). 9 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

★**Purim Party: Jewish Cultural Society.** Family-oriented program of arts & craft activities, games, singing, dancing, and a Purim play. Treats include pizza and hamantaschen. Children encouraged to come in costume for a parade. All invited. *10 a.m.–noon, Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free admission; nominal cost for food and games. 975–9872.*

Pre-K Purim Program: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. Purim stories, craft activities, and a snack for families with toddlers age 5 & under. All invited. *10:30–11:30 a.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (members, free). Preregistration required at info@aarecon.org or 913–9705.*

★**"Crooked Trail Hike": Sierra Club.** All invited to join club members for a moderate-paced 5-mile hike. Canceled if rain. *12:30 p.m., meet at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Free. 677–0823.*

★**"Quakers: Information for Seekers and Friends": Ann Arbor Friends Meeting.** *March 12, 19, & 26.* Local Quakers TBA discuss the basics of Quakerism. Q&A. Today: **"Quaker History."** Also this month: **"Quaker Worship"** (March 19) and **"Quakers Today and FAQs"** (March 26). Soup-and-sandwich lunch provided. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. Free. Preregistration requested. 657–9819.*

18th Annual Wild Game Dinner: Ann Arbor Elks Lodge. This buffet of wild game includes rabbit, deer, caribou, elk, and other delectables. Door prizes and a raffle. Proceeds benefit local charities. *12:30 p.m., Elks Lodge, 4420 Jackson Ave. Tickets $15 in advance and at the door. Space limited. 663–1105.*

★**"Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans (LGBT) Rights and the Interfaith Community": First Unitarian Universalist Congregation.** Members of the Washtenaw Faith Action Network discuss the group's efforts to get the state legislature to outlaw bullying, its outreach efforts to LGBT-friendly churches, and other projects. *12:45 p.m., First Unitarian, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 665–6158.*

"Shamrocks and Shenanigans 5K": Conor O'Neill's. 2-lap 5 km race and walk that starts and finishes in front of Conor O'Neill's on Main Street. Also, a 200 m dash for kids. Awards to male and female winners in each age division. Inside Conor O'Neill's following the race, face painting, bagpipers, and Irish music and dancing. Proceeds to benefit Mott Children's Hospital. *1:30 p.m. (kids dash) & 2 p.m. (5 km race & walk), Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $22 in advance, $25 day of race. Kids race: $5 in advance and day of race. 665–2968.*

★**Shape Note Singing: The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 747–9644, 761–1451.*

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. *2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971–6261, 485–5007.*

★**Oral History Interview: Pittsfield Township Historical Society.** A club member interviews 2 Pittsfield Township public safety employees, director John Phillips and captain Elizabeth McGuire. Q&A. *2 p.m., Pittsfield Community Center, 701 W. Ellsworth. Free. 429–4517.*

★**"Michael Cardew": Yourist Pottery.** Screening of a 1983 video about this pioneering British functional potter (1901–1983) noted for his novel combination of traditional forms with contemporary decorative images. *2 p.m., Yourist Pottery & Design Studio, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662–4914.*

★**"The Lake, the River, & the Other Lake": Ann Arbor District Library Sunday Edition.** Local fiction writer Steve Amick discusses his new novel, an affectionate, knowing portrait of townies, wealthy vacationers, old-time cherry farmers, and a Native American Vietnam vet in a Michigan vacation spot slowly yielding to gentrification. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea provided. Taped for repeat broadcasts on cable channel 17. *2–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"Broken Glass": U-M Residential College Players. See 10 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 2 & 7 p.m.

March is Youth Art & Music Month

The Main Street Area Association and Ann Arbor Public Schools Art and Music Departments team up to bring performing and fine arts from the classroom to businesses downtown.

Come Celebrate!

with downtown businesses as young artists show off their special talents for you.

Come Show Your Appreciation!

for these talented young artists by attending their performances and visiting their wonderful art displays.

LIVE PERFORMANCES • SUNDAY, MARCH 12

1:00-2:30pm Students from Ozone House recite original poetry on downtown sidewalks.

•

1:30-3:30pm The Clague Middle School Chamber Groups perform at 306 S. Main.

Art will be displayed in the following banks, stores and restaurants during the entire month of March:

Alex Gulko Lakewood
Ann Arbor Art Center Burns Park
Ann Arbor YMCA Pioneer
Arbor Brewing Company Huron
The Arena Restaurant Lakewood
BankOne Slauson
bd's Mongolian BBQ Scarlett
Blimpie Subs Lakewood
Busy Hands Wines
Café Felix Pioneer
Clay Gallery Wines
Collected Works Angell
Comerica Bank Pittsfield
Downtown Home and Garden Northside
Espresso Royale Caffe on Main Lakewood
Everyday Wines Community High
Footprints Abbott
Four Directions Bach
Generations for Children Dicken
Graphic Art Wholesalers Eberwhite
Gratzi Pioneer
MAV Development-350 S. Main Lakewood
M-Den Lawton
Palio Restaurant Clague
Peaceable Kingdom Tappan
Raymond James Investment on Main Eberwhite
Real Seafood Company Mitchell/Pattengill
Renaissance Clothing Clague
Running Fit Clague
Schakolad Chocolate Factory Logan
Schlanderer & Sons Pioneer
16 Hands Wines
Suwanne Springs Thurston
Three Chairs Stone
Voila Forsythe

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www.mainstreetannarbor.org

or call Main Street Area Association at

734-668-7112

main street area association

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- Cheer on the Detroit Tigers; Time Travel to Sauder Village
- Have fun in the sun & eat S'mores
- Visit the Species Survival Center and take a river boat cruise
- See a REAL newsroom, take in a play & the DSO
- Tour a Buffalo Ranch and see the State Fair!

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- Instruction designed for kids in K-8th grades

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- Customize your program according to your interests

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- Receive an owl from someone special
- Be sorted, read tea leaves, concoct a new potion, and other phantasmagorical surprises!

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"Vintage Dance Party": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. An evening of swing, waltz, polka, blues, one-step, and tango dancing. Live music by Cathy's Lounge Band. Casual dress. No partner required. *2:30–5 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $7. 769–0041.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 5 Sunday. Today: **Team USA Under–17 vs. Alpena** of the North American Hockey League. 3 p.m.

★**"The Discourse of the Real in Hiroshige's 53 Stages of the Tokaido": U-M Museum of Art.** Talk by UMMA Asian art curator Maribeth Graybill. In conjunction with the current UMMA exhibit of Hiroshige's renowned travelogue prints. *3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"Great Women of Ragtime": River Raisin Ragtime Review. William Hayes leads this 12-member Tecumseh-based ensemble of area musicians in a program featuring tunes by women composers of the ragtime era. Includes works by Detroit-based ragtime composers and arrangers Charlotte Blake and Luella Moore, the renowned African American composer Florence Price, and others. In celebration of Women's History Month. *3 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Tickets $15 (seniors, $12; youth 18 & younger, $10) in advance and at the door. 423–1962.*

"Prince Darling": Dreamland Theater. See 4 Saturday. 3 p.m.

★**University Choir: Concordia University.** Brian Altevogt conducts the choir in a program of works by Morley, Taverner, Whitacre, Lassus, Distler, and Standford. *4 p.m., Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–4616.*

★**"Child's Play XIV": Friends of Chamber Music in Pease.** EMU music faculty pianists Anne Beth Gajda and Garik Pedersen present their popular annual concert for families with young children. The program includes familiar masterpieces by Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, and Brahms. *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255, 484–3237.*

Fred Hersch: Kerrytown Concert House. This prominent jazz pianist-composer is an adventurous performer with an impressive stylistic range and a sensibility that blends emotional frankness and refined intelligence. "[Hersch] improvises with the sharp conceptual clarity of a classical composer," says *New York Times* jazz critic Terry Teachout. "Instead of merely skimming atop the familiar chord changes of standard songs, he forges them into rigorously structured, highly personal re-creations." *4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: Michigan Theater Foundation "Not Just for Kids Series." AASO conductor Arie Lipsky leads the orchestra in a family concert of music inspired by the idea of freedom. Pioneer High School Symphony Orchestra violinist **Benjamin Beilman** joins the orchestra for the 3rd movement of Tchaikovsky's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra. Also, excerpts from Morton Gould's *American Salute*, Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, Verdi's *Nabucco*, Copland's *Lincoln Portrait*, Amy Beach's Symphony in E Minor, and Rossini's *William Tell*. Preceded by a "string instrument petting zoo," where kids ages 3–8 can learn up close what instruments feel and sound like (2:30–3:30 p.m.). *4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $12 (children, $5) in advance at the AASO office (527 Liberty) and at the door. 994–4801.*

★**"Booked for Murder" Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss 2 Edgar Award–winning murder mysteries, Thomas Cook's *The Chatham School Affair* and George Pelecanos's *Hard Revolution. 4:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 769–2149.*

★**Queer Fiction Book Club.** All invited to discuss Annie Proulx's wrenching short story **"Brokeback Mountain,"** and Gad Beck's gripping memoir ***An Underground Life: Memoirs of a Gay Jew in Nazi Berlin***. *4:30–6 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

★**40th Anniversary Annual Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.** Highlights are a slide-illustrated talk at 5 p.m. on the history of ICPJ by **Tobi Hanna-Davies,** the former longtime ICPJ director who now lives in Kalamazoo, and a talk at 7:15 p.m. on future challenges to peacemaking by writer and veteran Central American peace worker **Jack Pallmeyer.** In between the 2 talks, there is a reception, live music by Temple Beth Emeth members, and a short business meeting. Preceded at 4:30 p.m. by socializing. *5 p.m., First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor Social Hall, 1432 Washtenaw Ave. Free. 663–1870.*

dance

Children of Uganda
Ambassadors of hope

2005 was dubbed the year of Africa. New commitments to fight AIDS, poverty, and instability were made at the G8 Summit, at Live 8 concerts, and in millions of homes around the world. Generalizations are frowned upon for good reason, but in the recent issue of *Granta* devoted to contemporary views and voices from Africa, John Ryle writes, "In the West, in the world's lucky countries, it may have been the year of Africa; but for many Africans, in much of Africa, it was another year of living on the edge."

The talented young dancers and musicians who make up Children of Uganda know this to be true. All have been orphaned because of AIDS, other diseases, or the country's brutal civil war—one of the longest-running conflicts on the continent. Yet the hardships and horror aren't on view when these engaging performers take the stage. Instead, the diverse artistic traditions of East Africa come alive through music, movement, costumes, and stories annotated by a charming master of ceremonies, artistic director Peter Kasule.

Celebrating its tenth anniversary and third appearance in Ann Arbor, Children of Uganda travels to share East Africa's rich cultural history and to raise money for the Uganda Children's Charity Foundation, which cares for more than 700 orphaned children. Those on tour have been chosen to represent their peers at the orphanage in Kampala and, more broadly, the approximately two million orphans throughout the country. The group's residency in Ann Arbor—which includes several school visits in addition to its Power Center performances on Thursday and Friday, March 23 and 24—is an integral part of the University Musical Society's season-long Africa festival.

Throughout a performance that mixes old and new, the music is marked by sophisticated shifting rhythms. Dancers smoothly pivot, plié, and small-step, riding the rhythm. Hips seem to be in constant motion while arms branch and curl independently. As in much traditional African dance, the center of gravity is low. Drums and a gigantic xylophone figure prominently, as do gorgeous call-and-response vocals. Everyone is given a chance to show off, and gleaning something of each child's personality through her or his performing style is a special bonus.

As Kasule, an original member of the group, says, "The arts have survived in Uganda and throughout all of Africa, though borders may have moved and country names changed. Dance, music, and storytelling record our histories and instill values. . . . They are a teacher and tool of survival."

"Africa is part of everyone's life, whether they know it or not," John Ryle observes. "It has given us the soundtrack of modernity. And—here is one generalization it is safe to make—Africa is where we come from."

—Stephanie Rieke

★**"The Mahabharata": U-M Gamelan Ensemble (U-M School of Music).** Two U-M artists in residence, puppeteer **Sigit Adji Sabdoprijono** and Javanese dancer **Yulisa Mastati,** join an ensemble of local professional and amateur puppeteers and dancers in dazzling, ornate Indonesian dress to perform a spectacular adaptation of the Hindu epic about the long-reaching effects of a civil war. The performance is in the *wayang sandosa* style, a contemporary adaptation of the traditional Javanese shadow puppet theater that adds dancers to the puppetry. The puppetry and dance are accompanied by the Gamelan Ensemble, directed by Susan Walton, a popular town-and-gown group that specializes in the traditional percussive music of central Java and Bali. An assembly of 50 bronze gongs, flutes, metallophones, drums, strings, and a xylophone, the gamelan produces a lush, intricate concatenation of nonharmonic melodies built on cycles marked by the largest gong and subdivided by the other instruments, producing a sweet, dreamy clangor. Ann Arbor is a gamelan-lovin' town, so the earlier you get there, the better. *5 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

★**"Theology on Tap": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Outreach Committee.** All invited to join an informal discussion of social, theological, and political issues. Tonight: St. Andrew's member Andrew Kraemer, a candidate for the priesthood, leads a discussion of **"Sexuality and Scripture."** Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 116 E. Washington. Free. 213–5378.*

★**College of Wooster Chorus: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.** College of Wooster (Ohio) music professor John Russell directs this 53-voice choir in works by Bach, Brahms, and Rachmaninoff, along with African American folk songs. *7 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free. 663–0518.*

★**"5th Annual Dance on Camera Festival": U-M Dance Department.** Screening of a video of a juried selection of videodance works featured in the recent 34th Annual Dance on Camera Festival in New York. Videodance is a hybrid art form that combines the dynamics of dance and the moving body with film/video editing and direction, animation, and computer technology. *7–9 p.m., U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Dance Studio, 1310 North University Ct. Free. 647–2288, 647–2288.*

"Uncoupled": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 7 p.m.

Dave Alvin: The Ark. A cofounder of the great roots-rock band the Blasters and later a member of the seminal L.A. punk band X, Alvin is arguably the best rock 'n' roll songwriter still at work, and one of the best rock 'n' roll guitarists. His songs are known for their seamless blend of blues, rockabilly, honky-tonk, and gospel strains, and for their vivid vernacular portraits of the inner lives and outer conditions of ordinary people. "Alvin's lyrics convey the heartache and longing you hear in the voices of the great country singers like George Jones but rarely hear in their material anymore," says the *Los Angeles Times* in its review of Alvin's 1994 CD *Museum of Heart*. His current repertoire includes material from all phases of his career, along with traditional folk and blues songs. *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Only a Rose": Huron Valley Rose Society.** American Rose Society Great Lakes District director Diane Schrift gives a slide-illustrated talk on the use of rose imagery in art, textiles, porcelain, and photography. The presentation was given an award by the DAR. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 996–3892.*

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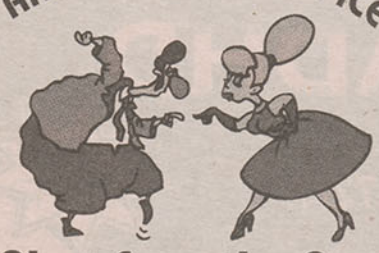

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12 SUNDAY *continued*

★"GI Jews: How World War II Changed a Generation": Beth Israel. Talk by U-M history professor Deborah Moore. *7:45 p.m., Beth Israel Congregation, 2010 Washtenaw, Free. 665–9897.*

★Local Music Night: Dreamland Theater. Triple bill with Austin singer-songwriter **Tony Presley,** Austin hip-hop and spoken-work artist **Dan Solomon,** and local indie garage-folk singer-songwriter **Almus Magnus.** *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

Anthony B.: The Blind Pig. Acclaimed Jamaican reggae singer-songwriter known for his Afrocentric socially conscious lyrics and limpid, lilting vocal style. Opening act is **Soul Majestic,** an 11–piece reggae band based in Santa Cruz whose music assimilates a mix of reggae styles from socially conscious roots-reggae to dub and dancehall. *8:30 p.m.–midnight (doors open at 8 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, $25 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 8:30 p.m.

"The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 10 p.m.

"The Jim Jam": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Ordinary People" (Robert Redford, 1980). Perceptive, moving portrait of the undercurrents in a family that lost one of its 2 sons in a boating accident. Mary Tyler Moore, Donald Sutherland. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 3 p.m. **"Cache"** (Michael Haneke, 2005). *March 12–20.* When a family learns they're being watched and videotaped, a long-hidden secret emerges. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"Heart of Gold"** (Jonathan Demme, 2006). See 10 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

13 MONDAY

★Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities. *Every Monday except March 6.* Talks by various U-M and visiting scholars. Bring a bag lunch. Today: U-M music history and sociology professor Margaret Somers discusses **"Citizenship, Statelessness, and Social Exclusion: Arendtian Lessons on Losing the Right to Have Rights."** Also this month: U-M art history professor Stella Nair discusses **"Constructed Landscapes, Imagined Pasts: Examining the Conceptualization and Commodification of Mound Builder Sites in the American Midwest"** (March 20), and University of London French professor Marian Hobson, a U-M visiting professor, discusses **"Taking the Measure of Character: Statues and Normalization"** (March 27). *Noon, Osterman Common Room, 0520 Rackham. Free. 936–3518.*

★Andrea Barrett: U-M Residential College/U-M Exhibit Museum. This National Book Award–winning fiction writer and Williams College English lecturer reads from ***Servants of the Map,*** her acclaimed collection of 2 novellas and 4 short stories about the inner and outer lives of an assortment of travelers, naturalists, nurses, botanists, surveyors, and other seekers of truths from the natural world. Reception follows. In conjunction with the U-M Explore Evolution Theme Semester. *5 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 763–0176.*

★Vito Acconci: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning. Talk on a topic TBA by this veteran performance and video artist known for confrontational performance pieces that involve the public in their production. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–1300.*

★"Evolution and Intelligent Design in the Classroom": 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads. Panel discussion with local teachers, scientists, clergy, and teacher educators TBA. In conjunction with 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★Pam Lewis: Arborland Borders. This writer discusses her debut novel, ***Speak Softly, She Can Hear,*** a suspenseful psychological thriller about an injudicious night with long-lasting unsavory consequences. A *Publishers Weekly* critic calls the book "well-written and gripping." Also, signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.*

★Sonya Sones: Ann Arbor District Library/Neutral Zone Book Club. All teens invited to discuss 2 young adult poetry collections by this California writer for teens, ***Stop Pretending: What Happened When My Big Sister Went Crazy*** and ***What My Mother Doesn't Know.*** Also, Sones is at the Neutral Zone on March 14, 7–9 p.m., to discuss her books with participants in tonight's discussion. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Freespace (3rd floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. 327–8301.*

★"The Naked Truth: Advertising's Image of Women": U-M Hillel. Media critic and author Jean Kilbourne discusses the impact of advertising on sexual violence and women's health. *7 p.m., Lorch Hall Auditorium, 611 Tappan. Free. 769–0500.*

★"Does the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Have Anything to Offer Me?": NAMI of Washtenaw County. Talk by U-M social work professor Thomas Powell. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

RobinElla & the CC String Band: The Ark. Classy young jazz-flavored bluegrass quintet from Knoxville, Tennessee, led by mandolinist Cruz Contreras and his wife RobinElla Contreras, a singer-guitarist whose vocal style is a striking, seductive cross between Alison Krauss and Rickie Lee Jones. "RobinElla emotes like a melancholy angel, with one wing in a jazz club and the other in a honky-tonk," says the *Atlanta Journal & Constitution.* The music in the band's acclaimed new CD, *Solace for the Lonely,* ranges from mountain folk tunes and spirituals to hot jazz and blues. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

FILMS

MTF. "Heart of Gold" (Jonathan Demme, 2006). See 10 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"Cache"** (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

14 TUESDAY

★"Cooking with Herbs": Good Thyme Garden Club. Talk by Community Rec & Ed instructors Merrill Crockett and Rita Hermann. *10 a.m., Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–5001.*

Distinguished Lecture Series: U-M Turner Geriatric Services Learning in Retirement Program. Sixth in a series of 9 monthly lectures by different U-M scholars. Open to anyone age 55 or older. Today: U-M English professor Ralph Williams, one of the U-M's most popular lecturers, discusses **"Primo Levi, Witness to the Shoah: Understanding the Human Implications of the Holocaust."** *10–11:30 a.m., Best Western Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $50 (LIR members, $30) for the 9-lecture series, $25 (LIR members, $10) per lecture. LIR memberships are $15 a year. 998–9351.*

★Books & Coffee: Concordia University. All invited to join local writer Benjamin Looker to discuss ***Point from Which Creation Begins: The Black Artists' Group of St. Louis,*** his book about a seminal 1968–1972 arts collective. Coffee. *10 a.m., Concordia University Riverside Conference Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–4612.*

"Issues Facing the LGBTQ Adolescent": Washtenaw Area Council for Children. Talk by local psychologist Jim Etzkorn. Buffet lunch included. *Noon–2 p.m., Washtenaw Intermediate School District Building, 1819 S. Wagner. $10. Preregistration required. 434–4215.*

★"Public Health, Globalization, and Cultural Practice: U.S. and International AIDS Prevention": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by IRWG researcher Anne Esacove. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall. Free. 764–9537.*

★"Voting and Disability Issues": Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion by city clerk Jackie Beaudry, other local election officials, and local voters with disabilities. *1–4 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★Robert Pinsky: U-M English Department. Reading by this former poet laureate, initiator of the popular "Favorite Poem" project, who is known for his conversational, languidly paced poems that range from a meditation on television to an ode to meaning. Robert Lowell praised Pinsky as "a poet who is intellectually interesting and technically first rate." Pinsky also gives a talk on March 16 (see listing). *5 p.m., Palmer Commons Ballroom, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 615–3710.*

★"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design. *March 14–19, 23, 25, & 28 (different locations).* Two weeks of talks, panel discussions, poetry readings, and film screenings centered around an exhibit of nearly 350 acrylic and oil paintings, paper collages, and multimedia and found-object works collected from over 175 artists in Michigan prison art programs. Tonight: opening reception for the annual exhibit and sale (see Galleries). *5:30–8 p.m., U-M*

Duderstadt Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd. at Murfin, North Campus. Free. 627–7673.

★**"China's Other Cinema: An Exploration of Contemporary Documentary Filmmaking in China": U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** *March 14–17 (different programs and locations).* An exploration of the new Chinese documentary film movement features a different film each night. Tonight: ***The Man,*** Hu Xinyu's 2003 documentary about a young bachelor, with nothing better to do while waiting for a new job, who spends his time attending to his love life, making calls to a matchmaker, and hooking up with women. Mandarin, subtitles. Followed by discussion with the director. *6 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★**Ann Arbor Checkers and Draughts Society.** *March 14 & 28.* Adults invited to play checkers, known as draughts in England. Also, participants can try to solve tricky end-of-game brainteasers. *6:30 p.m., downtown cafe TBA. Free. 827–0328.*

★**Mike Klepinger: U-M Aquarium Society.** Talk by this representative of Habitattitude, a national task force whose goal is to prevent the release of nonnative exotic species into the wild. *7 p.m., 2009 U-M Ruthven Natural History Museum parking lot, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 274–1722.*

★**"Rejuvenate Your Health with Liver Cleansing and Detoxification": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local naturopathic physician Michele Loewe. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**"Revolutions in Food and Farming": 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads.** Talks by Washtenaw County Extension Service agricultural agent Mike Score and U-M sustainable agriculture and food systems research scientist Catherine Badgley. In conjunction with 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Sam Walker: Liberty Borders.** This *Wall Street Journal* senior writer discusses ***Fantasyland: A Season on Baseball's Lunatic Fringe,*** his rib-tickling account of his spiral into obsessive uber-geekiness while participating in an elite fantasy baseball league. A *Publishers Weekly* critic notes that "the real fun is in watching Walker's well-laid plans unravel." Also, signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★**"The Future of Food": Whole Foods Market.** Screening of Deborah Garcia's 2005 documentary about genetically altered foods that have entered the food supply and alternatives to large-scale industrial agriculture. *7 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All invited to discuss ***To Say Nothing of the Dog,*** Connie Willis's quirky, effervescent sci-fi fantasy cast as a Victorian novel. Refreshments. *7–9 p.m., 3184 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**Sierra Club Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, continued from last month, of Robert Kennedy Jr.'s ***Crimes Against Nature: How George W. Bush and His Corporate Pals Are Plundering the Country and Hijacking Our Democracy.*** *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 475–9851.*

★**"Museums and Community": U-M Museum Studies.** U-M Museum Studies program director Raymond Silverman interviews renowned museum consultant Elaine Gurian about how museums can connect with their communities. *7:30 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 936–6678.*

"Choral Cavalcade East": Ann Arbor Public Schools. Student choirs from Clague and Scarlett middle schools and Huron High School perform a wide variety of choral works. Proceeds go to middle and high school choirs. *7:30 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium, 2727 Fuller Rd. $5 (age 17 & under, $2; family, $10) at the door only. 994–2096.*

Great Big Sea: Live Nation. This folk-rock quartet from Newfoundland, winner of many Juno Awards, is known for the intensity and power of its contemporary arrangements of traditional Celtic maritime ditties and its Celtic-flavored originals. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $30 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

★**Israel Current Events Discussion: American Movement for Israel.** All invited to join a discussion of current events in Israel. *8 p.m., Espresso Royale, 1101 South University. Free. 769–0500.*

★**University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** U-M music school grad students conduct this music-student ensemble in a program of works by music-student composers, including Christopher Molina's *Fish Dreams,* Jeff Myers's *Metamorphosis*

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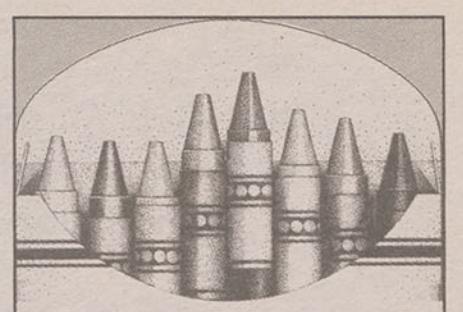

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March 25th and 26th, 2006
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Co-Host Drum: High Spirit, Michigan
Master of Ceremonies: Wallace Coffey, Oklahoma

March 25th
DOORS OPEN: 10:30 A.M.
GRAND ENTRIES: 12:00 P.M. & 7:00 P.M.

March 26th
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III, Andrea Reinkemeyer's *Lured by the Horizon*, Ezra Donner's *Symphonic Idyll*, and David Henry's *Phantasmagoria*. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Solas: The Ark. Led by multi-instrumentalist Seamus Egan on banjo, mandolin, guitar, flute, and tin whistle, this virtuoso quintet is the hottest of several young Irish bands who play traditional Celtic music with an expansive contemporary edge. The band also includes fiddler Winifred Horan, accordionist and concertina player Mick McAuley, guitarist and keyboardist Eamon McElholm, and new vocalist Deirdre Scanlan. The band's latest Shanachie CD, *The Edge of Silence*, give Celtic treatments to songs by Bob Dylan, Tom Waits, Nick Drake, and other contemporary American songwriters. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Tuesday Night Improv: Good and Evil": Dreamland Theater. *March 14, 21, & 28.* Troy Davies and Owen Wittekindt emcee performances by several area improv comedy groups. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. $5. 657–2337.*

Badfish: A Tribute to Sublime: The Blind Pig. This popular Rhode Island trio plays the music of Sublime, the influential early 90s California reggae-inflected pop-punk band. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $12 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "Heart of Gold" (Jonathan Demme, 2006). See 10 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"Cache"** (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

15 WEDNESDAY

"The Morning Edition": Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. This popular monthly program features a buffet breakfast and a series of 5-minute updates from local business and community leaders. Hosted by Michigan Theater executive director Russ Collins. Speakers: Borders Group chairman Greg Josefowicz, Ypsilanti U.S. Export Assistance Center director Paul Litton, Online technologies CEO Yan Ness, and others TBA. Video replays posted at annarborchamber.org. *7–8:45 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $25 (members, $15). Preregistration requested. 214–0104.*

"Using Medicinal Herbs Effectively": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. *Noon–1:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. $3. 998–9353.*

★**Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell: Arborland Borders.** Writer Stewart and illustrator Riddell discuss their popular fantasy series ***The Edge Chronicles.*** *3:30 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449–9394.*

★**"Is Arab-Israeli Peace Possible? Lessons Learned from 25 Years of Negotiations": U-M School of Public Policy.** Talk by Woodrow Wilson Center (Washington, D.C.) public policy scholar Aaron Miller, an advisor to 6 secretaries of state on Arab-Israeli negotiations. *4–5:30 p.m., U-M Business School Hale Auditorium, 701 Tappan. Free. 764–3490.*

★**"China's Other Cinema: An Exploration of Contemporary Documentary Filmmaking in China": U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** See 14 Tuesday. Today: ***Before the Flood,*** Li Yifan's 2½-hour 2004 documentary about the flooding of culturally venerable sites in the course of the construction of the world's largest hydroelectric dam in the Three Gorges region of the Yangtze River. Mandarin, subtitles. Followed by discussion with the director, who also introduces the film. Followed at 7 p.m. by a reception in Rackham Assembly Hall. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor).

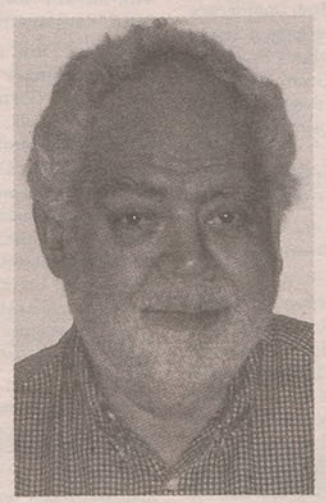
★**"American Curiosity: Cultures of Natural History in the Colonial British Atlantic World": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** U-M English professor **Susan Parrish** is on hand to sign copies of her new study of how the various peoples in the British colonies and the London-based scientific community influenced each other's understanding and representations of the natural world in colonial America. *5 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

"The Peace Cafe": Michigan Peaceworks. Performance by singer-songwriter Misty Lynn of the lo-fi country-tinged pop band Dabenport. Also, a talk by local peace activist Phillis Engelbert. *6–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co. Tap Room, 114 E. Washington. $5 suggested donation. 761–5922.*

poetry

Robert Hershon
The city from the side

Emily Dickinson told us that poets should tell the truth but tell it slant, in the belief that coming toward something from the side, unexpectedly, may reveal more of its reality. A variation on this might be that poets—or some of them, anyway—see the world, but see it slant. When the normal is seen just slightly askew, it can be wildly absurd, puzzling, amusing, or occasionally luminous. Robert Hershon is a poet who sees the world turned ever so slightly toward the absurd and the fabulous.



In his new book, *Calls from the Outside World*, Hershon writes about those moments that come alive under his observation and in the light of his humor. In "Messiah on Varick Street" the poet sees a "man in a gray suit" who "eats his lunch in Sounds of Brazil/He seems to be an ordinary citizen/until the light catches his earring/and makes it dazzle." But then the poet realizes that the man is not wearing an earring. One bright shaft of light is penetrating the city, moving through the window, and marking this particular man:

This one, this one!
It's the sign from heaven
all America awaits
Divinity! Take my life,
my wife, my wide-eyed babies!
I will run home to get you
my life savings
Until then—
please take my watch

Hershon enjoys the moment and the wild situation in his own imagination, but there is no doubt that he kept his watch.

This puzzled and bemused view of his city and his country is often the subject of Hershon's poems. "International Incidents" chronicles just a few moments where he sees the ordinary things of America in a foreign light that makes them funny and emblematic:

The teachers in the
lounge
crowd around the
Swedish visitor
You must be very
proud
one of them beams
to be Swedish
She has no idea
what this means
She says,
I don't dislike
being Swedish

Hershon is very much a poet of New York City, where he has lived all but a few years of what is now getting to be a long life. In his work, New York is always either the center of the world or the touchstone by which it is understood. Hershon does this with none of the air of cultural superiority that occasionally mars writing from the city, at least for some of us out here in the provinces. Rather, New York, and particularly his neighborhood in Brooklyn, is his window to the world. *Calls from the Outside World* ends with a short poem, "Locked":

The body like a tenement
Bathroom. . . . The tiles loose
the faucets dripping, the rust
stains in the tub, the weak
yellow light
And the banging on
the door
Hey, you say
Hey, I'm still in here

Robert Hershon reads from his poetry at the U-M Residential College Auditorium on Thursday, March 23.

—Keith Taylor

★**"The Healing Foods Pyramid": U-M Women's Health Program.** Local alternative medicine practitioner Monica Myklebust, a specialist in "body gratitude" and "tree energy," discusses her new food pyramid. *6:30 p.m., Washtenaw County Library Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw. Free. 764–2220.*

★**"Heart Health": Wholistic Doc.** Talk by local chiropractor Darren Schmidt. Refreshments. *7 p.m., 3100 Liberty. Free. 302–7575.*

★**"Cleansing Spring Tonics": Whole Foods Market.** Local herbalist Mary Light discusses teas and formulations that clean the liver and blood. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

"Zingerman's 24th Birthday Tasting": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Cultural historian **Sheryll Bellman,** author of *America's Great Delis,* tells some of her favorite deli stories and offers taste samples of classic deli foods. Also, signing. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's, 422 Detroit St. $20. Reservations required. 663–3400.*

★**"Animanga Club for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library.** All anime and manga fans in grades 6–12 invited to share their enthusiasm for these Japanese art forms, make recommendations for the AADL events and collections, and view anime films. Japanese candy from Wizzywig. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Jurassic Park": U-M Exhibit Museum.** Showing of Steven Spielberg's 1993 sci-fi thriller about a theme park populated with cloned dinosaurs. Followed by remarks by screen arts and cultures professor Sheila Murphy and U-M geological sciences professor Jeffrey Wilson. *7 p.m., U-M Natural Sciences Bldg., 830 North University. Free. 764–0378.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** *March 15 & 29.* Featured writers read from their current work. Tonight: reading by Hopwood-winning U-M creative writing grad student **Derek Mong.** *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"Global Warming": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Talk by U-M chemistry and atmospheric science professor John Barker. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass and serving utensil; table service provided). *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). Free. 769–1052.*

★**"Extreme Birding: World Listing": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by Livonia high school teacher Bryn Martin, an avid birder who has seen 2,039 species in 24 countries on 6 continents in the past 5 years. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

★**Poetry Group: Barnes & Noble.** All poets invited to bring samples of their work for the group to critique. Hosted by local poet Lawrence Thomas. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design.** See 14 Tuesday. Tonight: **"Coming into Language: Becoming a Writer in Prison,"** a talk by poet William Waters, a founder of 2 criminal justice newsletters who reads his poetry on March 16 (see listing). 7:30 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room.

★**Robert Wilbert: EMU Art Department.** This award-winning Detroit-based painter discusses his work, which has been exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Detroit Institute of Arts. *8 p.m., EMU Halle Library auditorium (off Oakwood*

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A 10 week program that helps women reach a goal of completeing the "For Women Only" 5k race on Sunday, May 12.

Females of all fitness levels are welcome.

When: Thursday, March 16 - May 18 6:30-7:30 pm
Where: UM Track at Hoover and State St.
Cost: $50 includes entry to the "For Women Only" 5k race

Register at www.aatrackclub.org

Registration will also be available at the track.

JEWISH SUMMER CAMPING AND CIVIL RIGHTS:
How Summer Camps Launched a Transformation in American Jewish Culture

Riv-Ellen Prell
3/16 7pm Michigan Room, Michigan League 911 N. University Street

TRACES OF A JEWISH PRESENCE IN POLAND

3/20-4/7 Gallery Exhibit
3/29 "There Once Was a Shtetl" 7pm Opening Reception, Lecture
3/30 "Lodz: The Promised Land" 12pm Lecture

Piotr Piluk

All events held at the International Institute, 1080 S. University St., unless otherwise noted.
734.763.9047 www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic

I'm a rapper. I used to make the best beats I could on my portable keyboard. It wasn't great, but it was all I had. It took me two bus rides, lugging that keyboard under my arm, to get to The Neutral Zone. But hanging out there working on my beats kept me out of trouble with gangs and illegal stuff.

The Neutral Zone staff really helped me. They encouraged me to set goals and develop my talent using their professional tools and equipment, like the Garage Band and ProTools software on the Mac computers, and the Beat Making machine.

I've been coming to Neutral Zone for two years now. I'm about to release the CD that I produced and recorded in the NZ Studios. I'm gonna get my G.E.D. and go back to school at Washtenaw, maybe eventually the U of M.

Dominque Stewart, Studio Engineer. I like the sound of that, fo' sho', no doubt.

Help us keep this space alive for all our community's teens. Join our Comprehensive Campaign to buy The Neutral Zone a permanent home.

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Saturday, March 25, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt St., Ann Arbor, MI

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Live Performance & Screenings 8pm

Competition Screenings
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Sat 1pm, 3pm, 7pm, 9:30pm

Curated Screenings
Wed-Fri 8pm, 10pm | Sat 3:30pm, 8pm, 10pm

Award Ceremony Sun @ 5pm
"Best of the Festival" Screening 6pm-10:30pm

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15 WEDNESDAY *continued*

from Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Free admission. 487–1268.

"Weird Wednesday": Dreamland Theater. Monthly open stage for off-the-wall performance artists, screenings of short videos and films, monologists, comics, musicians, and what organizers call "other avant bards." Performers can sign up shortly before the show. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Donation. 834–1782.*

★"Bush Family Fortunes: The Best Democracy Money Can Buy": The Planet. Screening of Steven Grandison's 2004 documentary about President Bush's service in the Air National Guard, the disenfranchisement of Florida voters, and donors to Bush's reelection campaign. *8 p.m., The Planet, 1112½ South University. Free. 994–4545.*

★Harpsichord Studio Recital: U-M School of Music. Performances by students of U-M harpsichord professor Edward Parmentier. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Lee Roy Parnell: The Ark. *See review, p. 65.* This veteran Austin-based singer-songwriter and slide guitarist performs a distinctive, soulful blend of roots-rock, honky-tonk, and Texas swing. The songs on his acclaimed 2005 CD *Tell the Truth* run the gamut from Delta blues and roadhouse rock to blue-eyed soul and full-blown gospel, and he has a brand-new CD, *Back to the Well*. Parnell performs with his band. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Everyman": EMU Holy Trinity Student Parish. *March 15, 16, & 18.* Sara Bertucci directs a cast of EMU students and Ypsilanti residents in a contemporary adaptation of the medieval morality play. A college student receives an unexpected visit from Death, who demands a strict accounting of what she's done with her life. *8 p.m., Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 W. Forest Ave. (off College Place from Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. $5 (students, with ID, free) at the door only. 482–1400.*

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Citizen Improv": Improv Inferno. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Full Frontal Comedy": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. *March 15–18 & 22–25.* Ralph Hoy directs his cabaret-style journey through the dark underbelly of the circus sideshow that features puppets, singers, musicians, jugglers, and even a bearded lady. Stars Laurel Huffano, Ralph Hoy, Reed Lauckern, Loren Mindell, Christopher Resciniti, Eryn Lauckern, Dre Roberts, Lauren Hill, and Vito Trivino. *11 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets: $10 (students, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $8 student rush tickets available the day of the show. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

FILMS

MTF. "Heart of Gold" (Jonathan Demme, 2006). See 10 Friday. Mich., times TB. **"Cache"** (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **U-M Exhibit Museum. "Jurassic Park"** (Steven Spielberg, 1993). See Events listing above. Nat. Sci., 7 p.m.

16 THURSDAY

★"Incredible India": International Neighbors. Members offer taste samples of Indian food specialties, demonstrate Indian dance and painting, and show how to put on a sari. All area women invited. International Neighbors is a 46-year-old group of local women organized to welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *9:30 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 996–2912.*

★"What Are We Learning, Anyways? or, How to Learn and Practice": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild. Talk by U-M piano professor Christopher Harding. *10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 996–1344.*

★Lt. Col. Lance Hilton: Daughters of the American Revolution. Talk by this U-M Army Officer Education Program chair. *10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club. Free. 975–1976.*

★Storytime: Briarwood Mall. A Briarwood representative reads a story based on the *Muggsy's Meadow* on-line interactive kids site. *11 a.m., Briarwood mall center court. Free. 769–9610.*

★"Could Neanderthals Chew Gum and Walk at the Same Time? An Archaeological Look at Current Issues about the Last 'Archaic' Humans": U-M Department of Archaeology. Talk by U-M anthropology professor John Speth. *Noon, 2009 U-M Ruthven Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–7274.*

★"China's Other Cinema: An Exploration of Contemporary Documentary Filmmaking in China": U-M Center for Chinese Studies. See 14 Tuesday. Today: ***Floating,*** Huang Weikai's 2005 documentary about a drifter who plays his guitar on the streets of Guangzhou and dreams of becoming a pop star. Mandarin, subtitles. Followed by a discussion with the director, who also introduces the film. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor).

"Fascism, Film, and Cinematic Modernity: An Interdisciplinary Symposium on Film and Fascism": U-M German Department. *March 16–18.* Three days of talks by visiting scholars. Today: NYU Italian studies professor Ruth Ben-Ghiat discusses **"Fascist Italian Colonialism as Studied Through Film."** Also this week: University of Warwick (England) German studies professor Erica Carter discusses **"Fascism and the Sublime"** (March 17, noon), and Erfurt (Germany) University historical anthropology professor Alf Luedtke leads panel (March 17, 2 p.m.) and roundtable (March 18, 10 a.m.) discussions of **"New Paradigms in the Study of Film and Fascism".** *4 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 764–8018.*

★"Social Innovators as Leaders": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts. Lecture by U-M organizational studies professor Richard Price. Reception follows. *4:10 p.m., U-M Alumni Center Founders Room, 200 Fletcher. Free. 998–6251.*

★Matthew Coolidge: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Talk by this founder of the Center for Land Use Interpretation in Los Angeles, a nonprofit art and research organization that does multidisciplinary studies of land use. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–0397.*

★"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design. See 14 Tuesday. Tonight: Screening of ***After Innocence,*** Jessica Sanders's 2005 documentary about 7 wrongfully imprisoned men who were exonerated by DNA evidence. 5 p.m., Michigan Theater.

★Charles Bernstein and Tracie Morris: EMU English Department Bathhouse Reading Series. Readings by these 2 poets. A University of Pennsylvania English professor who cofounded the influential poetry journal *L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E* in 1978, Bernstein is known for his radical formal experimentation, including prose poems and collage pieces, and for his playful subversions of the referential and communicative functions of language that often seem inspired as much by Groucho Marx as by Gertrude Stein. Morris is a veteran of the spoken-word scene at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe in New York City known for her tough, sassy hip-hop rhyming. *6 p.m., EMU Sponberg Theater, Ford St., EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1310.*

★Ann Arbor Society for Origami. All invited (children & adults) to learn about and try their hand at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. *7–9:30 p.m., Great Oaks Cohousing Common House, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 975–4669.*

★"Jewish Summer Camping and Civil Rights: How Summer Camps Launched a Transformation in American Jewish Culture": U-M Center for Judaic Studies. Talk by University of Minnesota American studies professor Riv-Ellen Prell. *7–8 p.m., Michigan Room Michigan League. Free. 763–9047.*

★"Interior Decorating on a Budget": Mothers and More. *Rescheduled from February.* Talk by Stylish Solutions owner Pat Alegra. Followed by a group discussion. *7–9 p.m., Gladwin Center, 4105 W. Liberty. Free. 327–4901.*

★Jess Row: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This young fiction writer, a U-M creative writing grad whose stories have been included in the 2001 and 2003 *Best American Short Stories* anthologies, reads from ***The Train to Lo Wu,*** his debut collection of 7 scrupulously imagined, psychologically penetrating stories, set in contemporary Hong Kong, about various outsiders struggling without success to decode the mysteries of race, sex, religion, and culture. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★"Macbett": U-M Basement Arts Theater. *March 16–18.* Seth Anderson directs U-M student actors in Eugene Ionesco's sour, satirical, violent play about the absurdity of war, very loosely based on Shakespeare's *Macbeth. 7 p.m., Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764–6800.*

★"3,500 Years of Jewelry Design": Concordia University. Talk by EMU Ford Gallery program director Larry Newhouse. *7:30 p.m., Concordia Riverside Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–4616.*

★"The American Small Town: Dreams and Nightmares": U-M Institute for the Humanities Jill S. Harris Memorial Lecture. Lecture by *Slate* Internet

magazine poetry editor **Robert Pinsky,** a former poet laureate who gives a reading on March 14 (see listing). *7:30 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom, 911 North University. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Who Are the Black Turks? Citizenship and Culture in the Contemporary Turkish Republic": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.** Talk by U-M sociology grad student Mucahit Bilici. *7:30 p.m., 1638 SSWB. 1080 South University. Free. 764–0350.*

★**"End of Life Decisions: Facing the Terry Schiavo Dilemma": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon.** Panel discussion with U-M law and internal medicine professor Carl Schneider and End of Life Choices of Michigan board member Nancy Livermore. *7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757, 665–9160.*

★**"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design.** See 14 Tuesday. Tonight: **"A Night of Spoken Word"** features readings by New York poet **William Waters** (see 15 Wednesday listing) and local poets Will Copeland and Brandon Gatson. 8 p.m., U-M Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University Ave.

★**"Caring for Nature: What Science and Economics Can't Tell Us but Religion Can": U-M Campus Chapel.** Talk by Colorado State University philosophy professor Holmes Rolston III. *8 p.m., 1040 Dana, 440 Church. Free. 668–7421*

★**Local Music Night: Dreamland Theater Local Music Thursdays.** Double bill. **Actual Birds** is a local singer-songwriter who plays acoustic folk-punk with a raw dark edge, and **The Malek Family Band** is a Brighton quartet that improvises on a variety of woodwinds. Opening act is the comedy duo **Funny Hatz.** *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

Chris Buhalis: The Ark. This popular local singer-songwriter sings engaging, fresh-minded folk-country originals in a rich, warm voice. His songs about ordinary American life range from stories set in Alaska's whiskey-soaked bars and Detroit auto plants to the caustically witty "Talkin' Sounds Just like Joe McCarthy Blues." He has released a CD, *Kenai Dreams. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $12.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

First Annual Home Season: Peter Sparling Dance Company. *March 16–18.* U-M dance professor Peter Sparling leads 6 members of his troupe in the world premiere of his *Nacht und Traeume,* a turbulent, emotionally charged work dealing with themes of confinement and escape, set to a Schubert score. Also, the world premiere of *Babel,* a quartet set to video projections and an Arvo Part score, and works that premiered at the Charles Ives Festival in February, including dances set to Ives's songs "Sunrise," "The Cage," and "The Alcotts." *8–10 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt St. Tickets $15 (students with ID & seniors, $10) in advance and at the door. 747–8885.*

"The Miss Firecracker Contest": P.T.D. Productions. *March 16–19.* Joseph York directs local actors in Beth Henley's bittersweet comedy about Carnelle, a misfit girl in a small southern town who's determined to redeem her tarnished reputation by winning a beauty pageant. Her efforts are complicated by the arrival of her cousin Delmount, just out of a mental institution, and his sister Elain, a former Miss Firecracker winner. The cast includes Pam Rickard, Denene Pollock, Alena Acker, Matt Sameck, Marvin McIntosh, and O'Bryan Worley. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance and at the door. 483–7345.*

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thursday through Sunday, March 16–April 23.* David Wolber directs Ibsen's classic drama about the breakdown of the marriage of Nora and Torvald Helmer and the dissolution of the "dollhouse" that 19th-century middle-class marriage had become. The play caused riots when it was first performed in 1879, and could be safely produced only when a "happy" ending was added where Nora returns to her life as wife and mother. Cast: Carla Milarch, Phil Powers, Sarab Kamoo, Aaron Moore, & John Siebert. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Mar. 16), $20 (Mar. 17, 19, & 23), and $27.50 (Mar. 18). Mar. 24 opening night tickets: $34.50 includes reception. After Mar. 24: $24.50 (Thurs. & Sun.), $29.50 (Fri.), and $32.50 (Sat.). Discounts available for seniors & (during previews) adults under age 30. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. Half-price student rush tickets available 1 hour before showtime. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Everyman": EMU Holy Trinity Student Parish. See 15 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Jimmy Dore: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 16–18.* This popular comic, who grew up in Chicago in a large Catholic working-class family, is a cable and network TV regular known for his clever, provocative, often painfully funny questioning of conventional pieties. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a non-smoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"March Improv Madness": Improv Inferno. See 2 Thursday. 8 & 10 p.m.

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 15 Wednesday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Heart of Gold" (Jonathan Demme, 2006). See 10 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"Cache"** (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **"The Spiral Project"** (Jarrett Slavin, 2005). Local indie film about a high school senior torn from his mundane life by strange events. Cost TBA 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 7:30 p.m.

17 FRIDAY

★**"St. Patrick's Day": Conor O'Neill's.** This day-long celebration features Irish ceili dancers and bagpipers, along with traditional Irish ballads and drinking songs by the Detroit trio **The Diggers.** *7 a.m.–2 a.m., 318 S. Main. Free. 665–2968.*

★**"Die Fussballweltmeisterschaft": U-M Germanic Languages and Literatures "German Day."** Local students of German compete in a range of German-language contests that include poetry and prose recitations, fake TV commercials, skits, music, and conversations. Followed at 1 p.m. by an awards ceremony featuring the winning performances. *10 a.m.–noon, Michigan League room TBA, & 1–2:30 p.m., Rackham room TBA. Free. 764–8018.*

★**"Evolution and Culture": U-M Explore Evolution Theme Semester.** *March 17, 24, & 31.* Today: Queen's University (Belfast, Northern Ireland) Institute of Cognition and Culture professor Harvey Whitehouse discusses **"Explaining Religion."** Also this month: Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science professor Stephen Stich discusses **"Evolution, Altruism, and Ethics"** (March 24), and U-M anthropology professor Beverly Strassmann discusses **"Does Evolutionary Theory Explain Dogon Culture?"** (March 31). *10:30 a.m., 4448 East Hall, 530 Church. Free. 764–0478.*

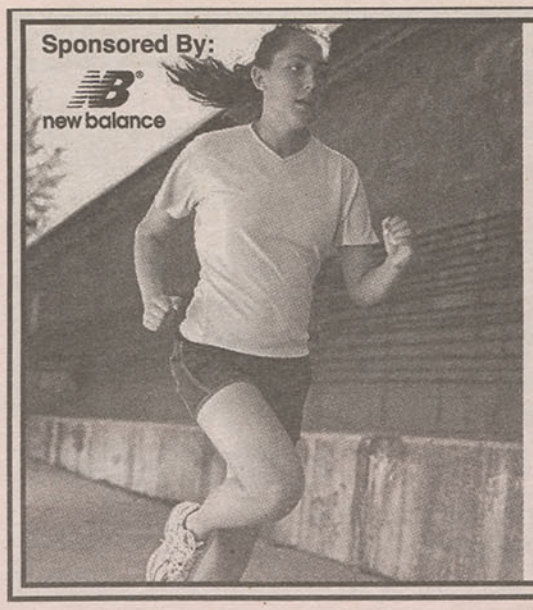
"Big Top Tent Saint Patty's Day Zingfeast": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Detroit corned beef king Sy Ginsberg hosts an all-you-can-eat corned beef and cabbage feast, hand-sliced corned beef and local cabbages, potatoes, and carrots, along with Zingerman's Bakehouse Irish brown soda bread and Guinness gelato from Zingerman's Creamery. Also, taste samples of Skelligs Irish chocolates. *11 a.m.–7 p.m., Zingerman's, 422 Detroit St. $15.99. 663–3400.*

★**Lenten Recital Series: American Guild of Organists.** See 3 Friday. Today: Concordia University organ instructor Jason Alden and St. John's Episcopal Church (Detroit) organist Susan Alden. 12:15 p.m.

★**Indian Law Day: U-M Law School.** A rare chance to witness operation of the Navajo legal system, which is different from the U.S. system. Three Navajo Supreme Court justices hear oral arguments by 2 attorneys about the legality of double jeopardy, which Navajo law currently allows. *Note:* Attendees must be present and seated by 2 p.m. *1–5 p.m., Hutchins Hall Honigman Auditorium, 625 S. State. Free. 764–6375.*

Builders Home and Improvement Show: Home Builders Association of Washtenaw County. *March 17–19.* Over 210 area exhibitors show and demonstrate products and offer information on services for the home. This year's special exhibit is a landscape with a large waterfall and large gazebo in building F. New this year are home filtration and vent systems. Also, exhibits on granite countertops, gutter helmets, pet containment systems, mantels, timber framing, and more. Concessions. *3–9 p.m. (Mar. 17), 10 a.m.–8 p.m. (Mar. 18), & 11 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mar. 19), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $5 (children 12 & under, free). Free parking. For information, call Sue Willis at 996–0100.*

★**Sa Schloff: U-M Residential College.** This RC alum discusses her photography, currently on display in the gallery (see Galleries). *4–6 p.m., RC Art Gallery, 701 East University. Free. 763–0176.*



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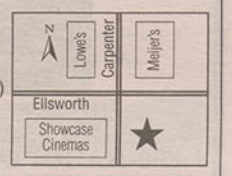

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17 FRIDAY *continued*

★"China's Other Cinema: An Exploration of Contemporary Documentary Filmmaking in China": U-M Center for Chinese Studies. See 14 Tuesday. Today: Fudan University (China) journalism professor Lu Xinyu introduces a screening of ***The Storm,*** Jiang Yue and Duan Jinchuan's 2005 documentary about the heated struggle between the nationalists and the Communists in 1945 for the control of China's northeast. Mandarin, no subtitles. Preceded at 4 p.m. by a panel discussion on **"The New Documentary Film Movement in China"** with Lu Xinyu, U-M comparative literature professor Lydia Liu, U-M Asian languages and cultures professor Mark Nornes, and U-M women's studies professor Wang Zheng. *5:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free. 764–6308.*

Family Shabbat Dinner: Jewish Community Center Early Childhood Center. Kids age 6 & under invited with their families for dinner, with a program presented by ECC kids and a sing-along. *6–7:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 (kids age 2 & older, $5). Reservations required. 971–0990.*

Parents' Night Out: Ann Arbor YMCA. Parents invited to drop off their kids ages 2–10 for dinner, games and sports, and (age 5 & older only) a dip in the pool. *6:15–10 p.m., YMCA, 400 W. Washington. $20 (members, $15). Preregistration required. 661–8012.*

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Pittsburgh. *7 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. *March 17, 24, & 31.* Readings by U-M creative writing instructors and grad students. Today: prose by **Celeste Ng** and poetry by **Britta Ameel.** *7 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. 615–3710.*

★"Macbett": U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 16 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. MSU. *7:30 p.m., Crisler Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

★"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design. See 14 Tuesday. Tonight: **"Elizabeth Fink, Radical Criminal Defense Attorney."** Talk by this attorney who spent 26 years litigating a suit against the state of New York for prisoner abuses at Attica. 7:30 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room.

"The Oblivion Project": Phoenix Ensemble (Kerrytown Concert House). *March 17 & 18.* Violinist Gabe Bolkosky leads this innovative local chamber orchestra in a program of Piazzolla's influential and increasingly popular "nuevo tangos," which assimilate folk idioms to a modern sensibility. Other performers are cellist Derek Snyder, bandoneon player Peter Soave, drummer Alex Trajano, pianist Tad Weed, and bassist Andrew Kratzat. *7:30 & 9:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 975–4376.*

★Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers. Slide-illustrated talks by club members Mark Hildebrandt on **"Great Lakes Car Ferries"** and Mark Cowles on a topic TBA. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church social hall, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 971–8329.*

★Performing Arts Technology Showcase: U-M School of Music. A kaleidoscope of electroacoustic music by performing arts technology students. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★EMU Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department. Kevin Miller conducts this music-student orchestra in a program highlighted by Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*. Also, pianist Bing Li, a winner of the annual EMU concerto and aria competition, is featured in a performance of the 1st movement of Liszt's Piano Concerto no. 1. *8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Kirov Orchestra: University Musical Society. *March 17 & 19. See review, p. 69.* Virtuosic Russian conductor Valery Gergiev conducts Russia's most celebrated orchestra in 5 Shostakovich symphonies. Tonight: Symphonies no. 1, 2, & 10. The First, written when he was 18, was called "an alarm, a forecast of the terrible future" by his contemporary, the musicologist Lev Lebedinsky. The **UMS Choral Union** joins the Kirov for the choral finale of the Second, which commemorates the 10th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. The Tenth, written just after Stalin's death, is thought to represent the composer's triumph at outlasting the dictator. Each concert is preceded by a dinner ($40) in the U-M Alumni Center that features a talk by U-M music grad student Laura Kennedy. *Note:* On March 18 (see listing), Kirov Orchestra members participate in a U-M symposium on the *Leningrad Symphony,* which is on the March 19 program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$67 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Mark Kirschenmann: Canterbury House. Kirschenmann, a U-M Residential College music professor who plays an electric trumpet, is joined by Minneapolis drummer Nick Zielinski for a program of composed and improvised works celebrating the release of his newest CD, *This Electric Trumpet*. Against Zielinski's beatnikky, fuzzy drum line, Kirschenmann produces abstract moans, whines, and flutters suggesting everything from a snake charmer's flute to a police siren. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $5–$10 donation. 764–3162.*

The Greencards: The Ark. This acclaimed Austin-based acoustic bluegrass band, a trio of Australian and English musicians, is known for its blend of superb musicianship and an infectious sense of fun. "The key is the voice of bassist Carol Young, which approaches the vast ethereality of Patty Griffin on the breathtaking opener 'The Ghost of Who We Were' and provides the perfect harmonic center to the first single 'Time,'" says *Austin American-Statesman* critic Michael Corcoran in his review of the band's new CD *Weather and Water. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Pippin": Greenhills School. *March 17, 18, 24, & 25.* Jim Posante directs Greenhills students in Stephen Schwartz's 1972 Broadway hit, a pop-rock musical about the son of Charlemagne, a hapless klutz who seeks the meaning of life variously through exploits in war, sex, and politics. The show's better-known songs include "Magic to Do," "No Time at All," and "Simple Joys." *8 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Tickets (cost TBA) at the door only. 205–4057.*

"Urinetown": U-M MUSKET. *March 17–19.* Steve Sposito directs U-M students in Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis's Tony-winning musical comedy about a city in the midst of a drought so devastating that a malevolent corporation has been able to take control of all the toilet facilities. *Newsday* critic Linda Winer calls it "elevated silliness of the highest order that makes a gratifying case for the restorative return to knowing foolishness and the smartly absurd." *8 p.m., Power Center. $13 (students, $8) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

First Annual Home Season: Peter Sparling Dance Company. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Miss Firecracker Contest": P.T.D. Productions. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jim Gaffigan: Live Nation. Ann Arbor debut of this veteran actor and stand-up comic, an Indiana native known for his mordant observational humor and misdirectional jokes built on absurdist logical leaps. He has a new DVD based on his Comedy Central special *Beyond the Pale. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $25.75 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Jimmy Dore: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"St. Patrick's Day Dance": Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by DJ John Brown. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 973–1933.*

Frank Morgan: Firefly Club. This New York City-based alto saxophonist plays a sweet, hot brand of classic bebop. A protege of Charlie Parker who spent almost 30 years in and out of prison for heroin addiction, Morgan has released several dazzling bop-oriented recordings since he kicked his habit in the mid-80s. His style ranges from poignantly soul-searching on ballads to fleet and inventive on up-tempo tunes, where, as jazz critic Don Heckman writes, he favors "short motivic phrases, often adding leaps into the upper harmonics of his horn and spicing the process with sudden note bursts." *9 & 11 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $25 (students, $15) in advance and at the door. 665–9090.*

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 15 Wednesday. 11 p.m.

folk music

Peggy Seeger
Family tradition

In my left hand I hold the first Peggy Seeger record I ever owned. It came out in 1957—I was born sometime after that—and by the time I was a toddler, *American Folk Songs Sung by the Seegers* was in regular rotation on the funky green record player that some guy named Earl had left at our house and never come back for. I learned every song on it and often imagined that I was one of the fabulous Seeger family, brothers and sisters all singing together, instead of the lonely little only child I was. I thought deeply about each song. Why did the rich Irish lady in "The Rich Irish Lady" die? Why did that guy stab "Fair Ellender"? And what, precisely, was the nature of the "sugar candy" alluded to in "My Home across the Smoky Mountain"? And could I have some?

In my right hand, I hold Peggy Seeger's brand-new record (which is much smaller than the other one, and packaged quite differently). But *Love Call Me Home* (2005, Appleseed Recordings) is still filled with Seeger's pristine, girlish voice, delicate banjo playing, eerie/exuberant folk songs, and sense of family and tradition. As in the battered LP, the songs here are old, even the new ones. There's "Poor Ellen Smith"—based on an 1892 North Carolina murder. There's Seeger's own "Sing about These Hard Times"—based on the gospel tune "Down to the River to Pray." And there's a stunning, sobering a cappella reconstruction of an old Alan Lomax recording of Ozella Jones singing "Bad Bad Girl"—filled with regret and loss.

How wonderful it must be for Seeger to look back on fifty years of concerts, twenty solo albums, 100 joint recordings with other singers, and 200 original songs—not to mention kids and grandkids, world travels, and a life of creative social activism. How important it is to keep these songs alive and remembered, resung and interpreted. They are the wellspring from which so many other songs came, and it's truly a gift to be able to hear them again, ungussied, unadulterated, and still so fresh.

The record in my left hand also taught me math. Seriously. To this day, when my multiplication tables elude me, I call on Peggy Seeger and her siblings to remind me:

Five times five is twenty-five,
Five times six is thirty.
Five times seven is thirty-five
Five times eight is forty.

I'd go play it right now, except that I don't have a record player.

Peggy Seeger plays the Ark on Sunday, March 26.

—Whit Hill

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

"Cache" (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

18 SATURDAY

★**"Wind of the Spirit"; AGLOW International.** Talk by Southeast Area AGLOW president Cheryl Swift. The program is preceded by a light breakfast (9:15 p.m.). *9:30 a.m., Courthouse Square Apartments ballroom, 100 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 971–4545.*

32nd Annual Pioneer Craft Fair: Dexter Area Historical Society. Juried show of more than 50 artists and craftspeople. Modern and traditional folk art. Also, demonstrations of weaving, spinning, quilting, wood carving, lace making, caning, rushing, painting, calligraphy, tinsmithing, broom making, and more. Storytelling and a craft table for kids. Entertainment TBA. Bake sale. Lunch available, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Creekside Elementary School (old Dexter High School), 2615 Baker Rd., Dexter. $3 (children grades 1–12, 50¢; children 5 & under, free). 426–8846.*

★**Heirloom Seed Swap: Project Grow.** All invited to bring heirloom vegetable seeds to swap or to purchase seeds from Project Grow. Also, a Washtenaw County Historical Association display of photographs on 19th-century rural life and a display of antique gardening implements. *10 a.m.–noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free admission. 996–3169.*

★**Chapter of Life Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 50 & older invited to discuss a book TBA. Light snack. *11 a.m.–1 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Monte Nagler: Ann Arbor Art Center.** This local photographer discusses his work and his attitudes about photography. *11 a.m.–1 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center (use rear entrance), 117 W. Liberty. Free. 665–9904.*

★**"Financial Planning with 'Muggsy's Meadow'": Briarwood Mall.** A Briarwood representative discusses financial planning with kids age 12 & under, using themes drawn from the *Muggsy's Meadow* online interactive kids site. Giveaways. *11 a.m., noon, & 1 p.m., Briarwood mall center court. Free. 769–9610.*

★**Japan Cultural Festival: U-M Japan Student Association.** Includes anime screenings, recorded J-pop, a traditional tea ceremony, and demos of calligraphy and karate. Japanese food. *1–5 p.m., East Hall Atrium, 525 East University. Free. 565–4111.*

★**"Cosplay Day III": Wizzywig Collectibles.** All invited to come in costume as one's favorite anime or gaming character. Prizes for best costumes. *1 p.m., Wizzywig, 529 E. Liberty. Free. 22–5166.*

★**"Weaponizing Music: Shostakovich's 'Leningrad' Symphony in Wartime and After": U-M Center for Russian and East European Studies.** Talk by *New Yorker* music critic **Alex Ross,** the keynote address at this symposium held in conjunction with the performances by the Kirov Orchestra (see 17 Friday listing). The symposium begins with a talk by U-M political science professor William Zimmerman on "The Political Context of Shostakovich's Music." Also, talks by U-M history professor William Rosenberg on "The Historical Shostakovich" and U-M musicology grad student Laura Kennedy on "The Equivocal Nature of Shostakovich's Music," and a roundtable discussion with members of the Kirov Orchestra. U-M Slavic languages and literatures professor Herb Eagle introduces a screening, at 4:30 p.m., of Larry Weinstein's 1997 documentary film ***The War Symphonies: Shostakovich Against Stalin.*** *1–6 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Swordplay Extravaganza!": Ring of Steel.** Michigan Opera Theater fight director **Chris Barbeau** offers an introductory demo of theatrical swordplay and stunts. *1–3 p.m., Student Theater Arts Complex, 1201 Kipke Dr. (behind Crisler Arena). Free. 320–1147.*

★**"Spring Is Here!": Waterloo Recreation Area.** Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh leads a walk along the Spring Pond Trail to look and listen for signs of spring. The program begins with a short video about the visual cues that signal the imminent arrival of spring. Dress for the weather. *2–3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) Free. Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.*

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2:00 Discussion of case
2:15 Oral arguments
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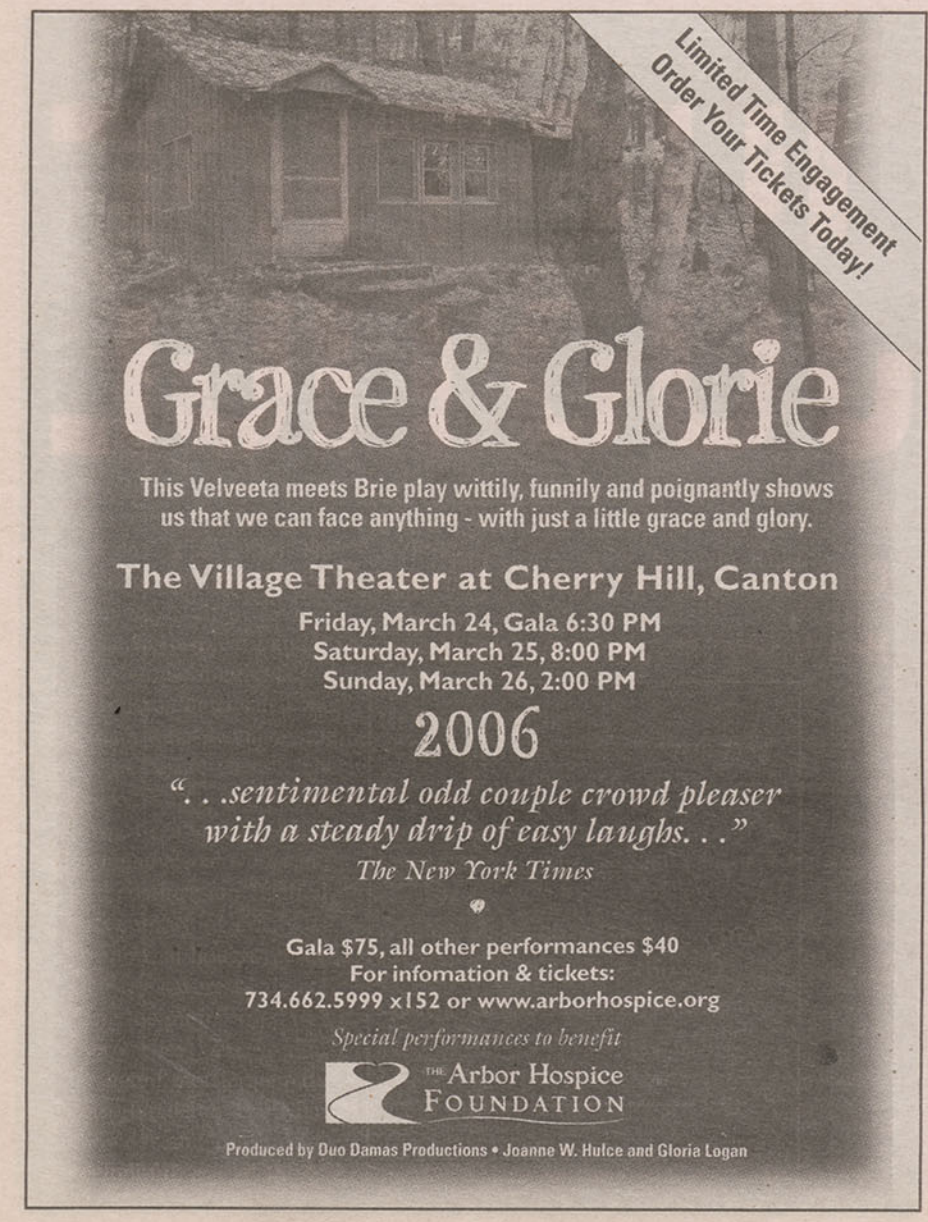
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18 SATURDAY *continued*

★"Sensational Cenozoic": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library. See 11 Saturday. *2–3:30 p.m. AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Preregistration required. 327–8301.*

★"Origami Overload": Ann Arbor District Library. Clague Middle School science teacher Soon Hotaling introduces kids in grades 6–12 to the Japanese art of paper folding, with an emphasis on geometric and pattern-based origami. Japanese candy from Wizzywig. *2–4 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★Jonathan Rowe: Barnes & Noble. This local attorney signs copies of his debut novel, *A Question of Identity*, a mystery, featuring an overeducated, underachieving Ann Arbor tabloid reporter, that is a best-seller locally. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★Matinee Dance: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All senior singles and couples age 50 & older invited to dance to recorded music from the 30s, 40s, & 50s. Casual attire. Refreshments. Preceded at 1:30 p.m. by lessons. *2–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★Annette Blank: Liberty Borders. CD release party by this singer. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

"Pippin": Greenhills School. See 17 Friday. 2 p.m.

★Youth Concert: Bethel AME Church. Dynamic gospel music by the Detroit twin-sister duo **Lindsey and Jemika Ferguson,** who are joined by the church's choirs and ensembles. The Fergusons have released a CD, *Count It All Joy. 3:30 p.m., Bethel AME. 900 John A. Woods Dr. Free. 761–1803.*

★Fred Ormand and Martin Katz: U-M School of Music. Clarinetist Ormand and pianist Katz, both U-M music professors, perform works by Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert, Brahms, Rorem, and Alessandro Carbonare's *FZ for Alex*, an arrangement of music by Frank Zappa that Ormand calls "great fun." *5 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Siam Melody": U-M Thai Student Association. U-M Thai students perform classical and contemporary Thai music, traditional dance, specialty shows representing several different regions of Thailand, and dancing to the lilting popular songs known as *look-thoong*. The program begins with a buffet of Thai appetizers, salads, and desserts. *5 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $12 (students, $8) in advance at thainightticket@umich.edu and at the door. 763–3241.*

"Wines of Spain": Jewish Cultural Society. Morgan & York specialty foods co-owner Matt York discusses and offers tastings of a selection of Spanish wines, accompanied by fruits and cheeses. A benefit for the JCS. *7 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $40 (couples, $70). 975–9872.*

"Prince Darling": Dreamland Theater. See 4 Saturday. 7 p.m.

★"Macbett": U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 16 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design. See 14 Tuesday. Tonight: **"Prisoner Advocacy,"** a panel discussion by prisoner advocates and criminal defense attorneys TBA. 7:30 p.m., Michigan League Wolverine Room.

Benefit Concert: Ann Arbor Family Learning Institute. Performances by the local honky-tonk band **George Bedard & the Kingpins,** local singer-songwriters **Dick Siegel** and **Annie & Rod Capps,** the **Mosaic Youth Theater of Detroit,** and the U-M percussion ensemble **Groove.** Emcee is local actor-director **Malcolm Tulip.** Proceeds benefit this local nonprofit devoted to improving reading, writing, and communication skills of local low-income students in grades 4–8. *7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. $15 (students, $10) in advance at Shaman Drum Book Store, Morgan & York, and the Family Learning Institute; and at the door. 994–6861.*

Ben Folds: Live Nation. Witty, quirky, rough-and-ready piano-based rock 'n' roll by this singer-songwriter who first gained attention as the leader of the Ben Folds Five. Folds is especially known for his musical inventiveness. As one critic put it, he "drops Gershwin licks into his solos and weaves Fats Waller and Baroque into a repertoire that merges the smarty-pants pop of Squeeze with the punctilious prog R&B of Queen." He's also famous for an unusually strong rapport with his audiences, often indulging in sing-alongs or call-and-response songs with the crowd. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $30 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"The Oblivion Project": Phoenix Ensemble (Kerrytown Concert House). See 17 Friday. 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Caller Robin Warner with music by the Pittsfield Open Band. All dances taught; first-timers welcome. No partner needed. Wear cool, casual clothes and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. Preceded by a free open jam for string and other musicians (3–6 p.m., 769–4220). *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $8. 665–8863.*

"A Venetian Feast": Tarantella (Academy of Early Music). This Toronto-based ensemble performs a program of 16th- and 17th-century Venetian music that includes monodies and instrumental solos and ensembles. Members are cellist Anna Sampson, harpsichordist Susan Toman, Manuel Minguillon Nieto on archlute and baroque guitar, and countertenor Andrew Pickett. The program includes works by Monteverdi, Francesco Cavalli, Giovanni Gabrieli, and others. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $15 (seniors & Academy members, $12; students, $5). 665–5758.*

RFD Boys: The Ark. Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites. They have appeared in numerous festivals and even made the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed*, a 1994 Ark performance. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. $11 (students, seniors, & members, $10) at the door only. 761–1451.*

First Annual Home Season: Peter Sparling Dance Company. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Everyman": EMU Holy Trinity Student Parish. See 15 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Urinetown": U-M MUSKET. See 17 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Miss Firecracker Contest": P.T.D. Productions. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Guest Artist": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Jimmy Dore: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 15 Wednesday. 11 p.m.

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Muppet Movie" (James Frawley, 1979). This heartwarming road movie mockumentary about the way the Muppets first met is highlighted by a steamy yet discreet love scene between Kermit and Miss Piggy. $8.50 (seniors & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6; children 12 and under, free). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 1:30 p.m. **"Cache"** (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

19 SUNDAY

★"Six Things That Need Doing": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by U-M economics professor emeritus James Morgan. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971–8638.*

★"Stinchfield Woods Hike or Ski": Sierra Club. All invited to join club members for a moderate-paced 4-mile hike. If it snows, bring your skis. *1 p.m., meet at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Free. 971–1157.*

★Michigan Peaceworks. All invited to commemorate the 3rd anniversary of the start of the Iraqi war with a **peace march** from the Diag to William, Main, Liberty, and State. *1 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761–5922.*

★"1,000 Day Celebration": Peace Neighborhood Center. This nonprofit neighborhood center celebrates its 1,000th day in its expanded home with performances by children in Peace's Performing Arts Academy and other activities. Also, tours of the facility. *1–4 p.m., PNC, 1111 N. Maple Rd. Free. 662–3564.*

★"Celebrate Spring": Ann Arbor Art Center. Families invited to participate in customs relating to the Indian springtime festival **Holi**, including making *rangoli* floor cloths and the re-creation of a traditional paint-throwing ceremony. *1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 665–9904.*

Gemini: The Ark. Family concert by this popular acoustic duo that has built a strong following among

kids and adults throughout the Great Lakes area. Twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits offer sing-alongs, folk songs from around the world, and upbeat originals about life's simple pleasures, all performed with a boisterous sense of fun on more than a dozen instruments. The duo's latest release is the *Parents Choice* award-winning CD *The Orchestra Is Here to Play*, a live recording with the local Phoenix Ensemble that offers young listeners an accessible way to venture into the world of classical music while enjoying folk songs written just for kids. *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $8 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"A Tiffany Gem: The Fox Memorial Window": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** Local preservationist and building historian Julie Truettner discusses the museum's spectacular but crumbling Tiffany window. *1:30 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 647–4167.*

★**"Name Origins of Local Streets and Roads": Washtenaw County Historical Society/Cobblestone Farm.** Talk by local freelance journalist and longtime resident Jeff Mortimer. *2 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray, west off Huron Pkwy. just south of Glazier Way. Free. 662–9092.*

"4th Annual Spring Sunday Sampler": Astrology Study Group of Washtenaw County. Talks by Michigan astrologers, including Nancy Bahlman on an astrological view of the generation gap, Bon Rose Fine on astroliteracy, and Phil Meade on women astrologers. Silent auction of astrology goodies. *2–6 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. $15. Preregistration requested. 434–4555.*

★**"Signs of Spring": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Catherine Marquardt leads a hike to search for skunk cabbage, red-winged blackbirds, and pussy willows. Prepare for possible mud. *2–4 p.m., Parker Mill County Park, Geddes (just east of US-23). Free. 971–6337.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. John Freeman and David Park call dances and lead party games. Live music by David West, Donna Baird, and Mark Williams. *2 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $6 (family, $12). 769–1052.*

★**"Israel and Palestine: What the Media Leave Out": Ann Arbor Middle East Film Society.** Screening of this videotaped talk by ifamericansknew.org director Alison Weir, a reporter turned activist. Discussion follows. *2 p.m., Michigan Union Anderson Room. Free; donations accepted. 668–1358.*

★**"The Adventurous Spirit": Ann Arbor Concert Band.** U-M music lecturer James Nissen directs this local volunteer ensemble in John Philip Sousa's "Freelance March," Joseph Jenkins's "America Overture for Band," Gustav Holst's 1st Suite, Scott Boerma's "Poem," the March from Paul Hindemith's *Symphonic Metamorphosis*, Percy Grainger's "Irish Tune from County Derry" and "Shepherd's Hey," and excerpts from John Williams's music for the movies *Lost World* and *Jurassic Park*. *2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free; donations accepted. 747–9126.*

"Urinetown": U-M MUSKET. See 17 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Miss Firecracker Contest": P.T.D. Productions. See 16 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Sensational Cenozoic": U-M Exhibit Museum/ Ann Arbor District Library.** See 11 Saturday. *3 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. Preregistration required. 764–0478.*

★**"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design.** See 14 Tuesday. Today: **"Art from the Inside,"** a panel discussion by prisoners whose works appeared in earlier *Art by Michigan Prisoners* shows. 3 p.m., Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus.

★**"Classical Cambodian Dance": U-M Museum of Art.** Talk by Philadelphia-based Cambodian dance instructor Chamroeun Yin, who also discusses and demonstrates the gestures and movements of the graceful and athletic Cambodian dance tradition. Also, Yin offers introductory demos tomorrow for youth ages 8–14 (2 p.m.) and ages 15–22 (4 p.m.). *3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**EMU Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band: EMU Music Department.** Scott Boerma and Mark Waymire direct these music-student ensembles in a lighthearted, fast-paced collage concert showcasing the winners of the annual William Stewart Performance Competition. The program includes Strauss's *Solemn Entry*, Philip Sparke's *Dance Movements*, and works by Al Margolis and John Zdechlik. *3 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

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19 SUNDAY *continued*

★James Kibbie: U-M School of Music. This U-M organ professor performs Handel's Concerto for Organ and Orchestra and organ works by J. S. Bach. *3 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Prince Darling": Dreamland Theater. See 4 Saturday. 3 p.m.

★"Tancredi: A Forgotten Masterpiece": Ann Arbor District Library. Ann Arbor District Library music specialist Richard LeSueur discusses Rossini's opera, in conjunction with the UMS production of *Tancredi* on March 25 (see listing). *3–4:15 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★"Cookbook Exchange": Culinary Historians. Members give short talks on their favorite cookbooks. Bring a cookbook to swap. *4–6 p.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 662–8661.*

"Bread Making": Zingerman's Bakehouse. Zingerman's Bakehouse owner Frank Carollo talks about bread making and the different varieties Zingerman's makes (with taste samples). Also, participants knead, shape, bake, and take home a loaf of Zingerman's rustic Italian bread. *4–6 p.m., Zingerman's Bakehouse, 3711 Plaza Dr. $20. Space limited; reservations required. 761–2095.*

★Michigan Chamber Players: U-M School of Music. Chamber music by various ensembles of U-M music faculty. Violinist Yehonatan Berick, pianist John Ellis, and double bassist Diana Gannett perform Giovanni Bottesini's Grand Duo. Hornist Soren Hermansson and percussionist Michael Gould perform Jarmo Sermila's Duo for Horn and Percussion. Clarinetist Fred Ormand, cellist Thomas Landschoot, and pianist Martin Katz perform Brahms's Clarinet Trio. Cellist Anthony Elliott, violist Yizhak Schotten, violinists Berick and Andrew Jennings perform Debussy's String Quartet. *4 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★Annual All-Choir Concert: Temple Beth Emeth. Cantor Annie Rose leads this fast-paced concert of sacred and secular music performed by singers in the Temple Beth Emeth youth, middle and high school, and adult choirs. Followed by a reception. *7–8 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard Rd. Free admission. 665–4744.*

★Voices of Africa: EMU Office of Campus Life. Internationally acclaimed all-female choral and percussion ensemble from Philadelphia that is known for its soul-stirring a cappella harmonies and West African percussion. *7–8:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–3045.*

"Uncoupled": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 7 p.m.

John Hammond: The Ark. Long recognized as one of the best interpreters of country blues masters like Robert Johnson, Blind Boy Fuller, and Sleepy John Estes, Hammond extended his range to include one of their principal contemporary heirs on his 2001 CD *Wicked Grin*, a collection of covers of the post-Beat neocountry blues of Tom Waits. Accompanying himself on blues harp and various guitars, including a Martin 6-string, a National Steel Standard, and a Dobro, Hammond performs tonight with a trio. "John Hammond plays blues like a locomotive," says *Washington Post* reviewer Eve Zibart, "all rhythmic pumping underneath and steam on top." *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Kirov Orchestra: University Musical Society. See 17 Friday. Tonight: the ensemble performs Shostakovich's symphonies no. 7 and 9. The Seventh *(Leningrad)*, a musical response to the WW II siege of Leningrad, premiered in the West in 1942 only after the microfilmed score had been smuggled out via Tehran and Cairo. Inspired by Beethoven's Ninth, Stalin commanded a musical paean to himself, but Shostakovich's sardonic response, his Ninth Symphony, infuriated Stalin, who had him dismissed from the Moscow Conservatory. 7:30 p.m.

★"Roots in Water": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. U-M drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff directs her acting students in short scenes from Richard Nelson's series of short plays about hippies turned yuppies. *7:30 p.m., U-M Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4354.*

★Robert McDonald: U-M School of Music. Recital by this Juilliard piano professor. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★Music Night: Dreamland Theater Local Music Thursdays. Double bill. The British Columbia band

Shapes and Sizes plays melodic indie rock that ranges from mournful to driving, and the Ypsilanti band **Interiors** plays heavy, dense, driving indie rock. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 8:30 p.m.

"The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 10 p.m.

"The Jim Jam": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "As Good As It Gets" (James Brooks, 1997). A curmudgeonly successful author forced to care for a neighbor's dog begins to gain some glimmer of humanity. Jack Nicholson, Helen Hunt. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 3 p.m. **"Cache"** (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

20 MONDAY

★**"Who's Qualified?": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender/Michigan Coalition for Human Rights.** Harvard law professor Lani Guinier discusses affirmative action. *Noon–2 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–9537.*

"Fresh and Healthy": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Cooking demo by EMU dietetic students, who prepare and serve a healthy light lunch. *Noon–1:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. $3. 998–9353.*

★**Afternoon Book Group: Jewish Community Center.** All invited to join the last of 3 monthly discussions of Jonathan Weiner's ***The Beak of the Finch*** (see 9 Thursday Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads listing). *1–2:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

"Chefs 2006": Ann Arbor Summer Festival. Cocktails followed by a multicourse dinner (with a veggie option) prepared by Common Grill owner Craig Common and chefs from Food Art, Morgan & York, Cottage Inn, Moveable Feast, La Dolce Vita, and Schakolad. Wines. Proceeds benefit the festival's Top of the Park programming. *6 p.m., The Common Grill, 112 S. Main, Chelsea. Tickets $130–$175 in advance only. 647–2278.*

★**Hal Foster: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning Raoul Wallenberg Lecture.** Talk on a topic TBA by this Princeton modern art professor, the author of *Design and Crime and Other Diatribes*, a peppery examination of the branding of culture. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–1300.*

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. *6:45 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 426–3903.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 5 Sunday. Today: **Team USA Under-18 vs. Cleveland** of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

★**"Love the Skin You're In": Whole Foods Market.** Whole Foods staff member Heather Brumwell discusses natural skin care. *7–8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"The Civil War Through the Eyes of Fredericksburg Civilians": Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table.** Talk by Abraham Lincoln Civil War Round Table (Plymouth) president Liz Stringer. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 930–0617.*

★**Opening Week Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** *March 20–26 (different programs).* The AADL celebrates the opening of its new Pittsfield Branch with souvenir giveaways and free performances. Tonight: Tom Strode directs the **Boychoir of Ann Arbor** in a varied program of classical and pop music. *7–8 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch program room, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Playfest 2006": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** *March 20–26.* A series of free rehearsed staged readings of plays by students of U-M theater professor Charles "OyamO" Gordon, a well-known playwright who moderates postperformance critiques. Today: Kate Hutchens's ***Wholly Reckless Abandon,*** a drama, set against the backdrop of angels waging a battle to determine the fate of humanity, about a therapist overwhelmed by people in need who begins to wonder whether anyone's help has ever really helped anyone. *7 p.m., Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764–5350.*

★**Chris McCauley: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This Pontiac painter discusses her works in encaustic, a painting technique that mixes beeswax and pigment to create a soft, glowing look. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center (use rear entrance), 117 W. Liberty. Free. 665–9904.*

★**Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** A members' bourse features sales of U.S. and foreign stamps and covers (envelopes with canceled stamps). All invited. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761–5859.*

★**"Art, Culture, and Politics": U-M Communication Studies Howard R. Marsh Lecture Series.** Talk by the popular and influential *New York Times* op-ed columnist **Frank Rich.** *7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–0423.*

★**"Asa Gray and the University of Michigan": Michigan Botanical Club.** U-M botany professor emeritus Edward G. Voss discusses the founder of botanical study at the U-M. *7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–5667.*

★**Mass Meeting: American Movement for Israel.** All invited to get involved with this group that promotes understanding of the Middle East and Israel. Also, *Detroit Free Press* editorial page editor **Nolan Finley** discusses what editorial page editors look for in potential op-ed pieces and ways to increase the chances of getting an article published. *8 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. 769–0500.*

★**Jazz Combos: U-M School of Music.** Performances by small music-student ensembles coordinated by Ellen Rowe. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 763–0583.*

FILMS

MTF. "Cache" (Michael Haneke, 2005). See 12 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

21 TUESDAY

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *March 21 & 28.* Stories and songs for kids age 3 & up (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Malletts Creek Branch, March 22 & 28, 10–10:30 & 11–11:30 a.m., and the Northeast Branch, March 23 & 30, 9:30–10 & 11–11:30 a.m. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 7–7:30 p.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

★**"The Port of Last Resort": Temple Beth Emeth.** Screening of this engrossing documentary, which combines interviews with survivors with rare archival footage, about the 20,000 European Jewish refugees who fled to Shanghai during WW II and settled there. *1 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Free admission. 665–4744.*

★**"A New View of Eurasia: 800–1800": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M history professor Victor Lieberman. Reception follows. *4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 998–6251.*

★**Citizens Police Academy: Ann Arbor Police Department.** *Every Tuesday, March 21–June 20.* City police officers offer a 14-week introduction to law enforcement that covers criminal investigations, crash investigations, special units, firearms, and domestic violence. Participants get hands-on experience with processing crimes scenes, conducting traffic stops, and other aspects of police work. *6–9 p.m., 107 N. Fifth Ave. (above the Fire Station). Free. Space limited; applications available at ci.ann-arbor.mi.us. 994–8775.*

★**Judy Dominic: Ann Arbor FiberArts Guild.** This local fiber artist discusses "mud cloth," a surface design used by women of Mali's Bamana culture. Refreshments. *6:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665–0703.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 5 Sunday. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Mahoning Valley** (Boardman, Ohio) of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

SpiritSisters Women's Circle. All women invited to discuss spirituality, relationships, empowerment, metaphysics, and healing. Short meditation session. Bring divination tools, if you like. *7 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. $3. 741–0478.*

★**Opening Week Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** See 20 Monday. Tonight: **The Boogie-Woogie Babies,** the Grand Rapids-based trio of Francesca Amari, Mary Rademacher, and Barbara Wisse, present **"Boogie down Broadway,"** a review of vintage and contemporary Broadway favorites and little-known gems. 7–8 p.m.

44th Annual Ann Arbor Film Festival. *March 21–26.* The oldest and one of the most prestigious film festivals in North America kicks off tonight with an opening reception (free to ticketholders). The core of the festival is the **competition screenings,** which begin tonight at 8 p.m. and run through March 25.

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Traditionalism revisited

Depending on your point of view, part of the jazz world is either blessed or cursed by an obsession with tradition. Many of today's most popular jazz musicians have spent years trying to master a style that was developed over forty years ago, with little interest in developments that followed. If their idols had espoused the same reactionary view of musical history, they would have been playing music that was not far removed from the first documented jazz recording in 1917. Such historicism is not easy: anyone who spends ten years trying to master John Coltrane's early-1960s style must compete not only with his recordings, which are constantly being reissued, but also with the fact that the master himself moved on and left his earlier self—as well as his latter-day imitators—far behind. Such musings make one wary of tribute bands; therefore, I was somewhat apprehensive when I learned that the San Francisco Jazz Collective was coming to the Michigan Theater on Friday, March 31, with a program revisiting the music of Herbie Hancock.

My uneasiness was unfounded. The San Francisco Jazz Collective began in 2004 under the leadership of the well-known saxophonist Joshua Redman. Each year the ensemble focuses on the work of a major jazz figure such as John Coltrane or Ornette Coleman, but rather than simply re-create the master's recordings, let us say in the mold of Lincoln Center, it offers its own take on this music and intersperses those works with original compositions by members of the collective. Listening to the San Francisco Collective's recordings of works by Ornette Coleman, one is struck by the originality of the arrangements and by the fact that no one is imitating anyone from the original recordings.

Redman is the front man, but the Collective is a multigenerational mix of first-class musicians, most of whom are leaders in their own right. Redman shares the front line with the majestic trumpet player Nicholas Payton, trombonist Andre Hayward, and Miguel Zenón on alto sax and flute. Well known to Ann Arbor audiences, Payton seems able to fit in any style without sacrificing his individuality. Hayward, who also plays with the Lincoln Center orchestra, is a rising star on his instrument. Zenón is a fiery soloist with a distinctive cutting saxophone sound who combines modern jazz with Latin elements to great advantage. They are joined by vibraphonist Bobby Hutcherson, a leader in the experimental movements of the 1960s and one of the most original instrumentalists in jazz. Indeed, Herbie Hancock was a sideman on some of Hutcherson's classic late-1960s Blue Note albums.

The rhythm section for this date will consist of Renee Rosnes on piano, Matt Penman on bass, and Eric Harland on drums. Rosnes has established herself as a powerful modern jazz pianist with a fabulous technique, but she's also a distinctive composer. In sum, this is an all-star group of top-notch soloists, but it has a collective identity that is defined by the arrangements of older material mixed with wonderful new compositions.

—Piotr Michalowski

21 TUESDAY *continued*

The competition showcases new experimental and independent 16 mm, 35 mm, and digital films and videos in a wide range of genres and of generally high quality—past contributors have included Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, and Brian De Palma. Winning films are screened again on March 26, and awarded a total of over $18,000. The festival also includes (see daily listings) noncompetition evening screening-room shows (March 22–26) and free film jams (March 22 & 24), afternoon screenings by festival judges (March 22–24), and an AVID seminar (March 23). *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Festival tickets: $80 for the entire festival in advance at the Michigan Theater beginning March 4; $8 (students, $6; members, $5) per evening show at the door. 995–5356.*

★**"Playfest 2006": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** See 20 Monday. Tonight: ***The Marlin and the Jaguar,*** Eric Kahn Gale's drama about a boy with a magical gift who is forced to confront what it means to be human by the arrival of a mythical jaguar at his family's zoo in colonial Brazil. 7 p.m.

★**"Professional Women in Washtenaw County in the 19th Century": American Association of University Women.** Talk by local historian Susan Nenadic. *7:30 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 330–4138.*

★**"Aliens Among Us: Invasive Species and the Future of the Great Lakes": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Talk by John Gannon, a scientist for the International Joint Commission, an organization that monitors international environmental agreements. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–0823.*

★**"Happy Birthday, Bach!": EMU Music Department.** EMU organ and harpsichord students and alumni perform works by J. S. Bach and his family, along with some works by EMU alumni. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Bldg. Organ Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Andrew George directs this music-student ensemble in Berlioz's *Roman Carnival,* Ravel's Piano Concerto in G and his *Minuet Antique,* Ibert's Concerto de Camera for Saxophone and Orchestra, and Emmanuel Chabrier's *Espana. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

Billy Bragg: The Ark. *See review, p. 75.* An immensely gifted, gruff-voiced British troubadour, Bragg returns to town for the first time in more than 7 years. He is known for his pungent original songs, at once subtly nuanced and vividly blunt, in a variety of moods, from scathing political and social satire to Dylanesque ballads. His repertoire also includes political songs from William Blake to Sweet Honey in the Rock to a variety of what he wittily calls "American working-class music" from Hank Williams to the Jackson Five. He also still performs some of the 40

or so vigorous, sinewy folk-rock songs he composed from recently rediscovered lyrics by country-folk legend Woody Guthrie, most of which were released on the acclaimed *Mermaid Avenue* CDs Bragg made with the alt-country band Wilco. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $25 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Tuesday Night Improv: Good and Evil": Dreamland Theater. See 14 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival Competition Screening. See Events listing above. Mich., 8 p.m.

22 WEDNESDAY

★2-year-Old Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library. *March 22 & 29.* Stories, rhymes, and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). *9:30–9:50 & 10:30–10:50 a.m., AADL story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Gender and Genre: The Expansion of 'Feminin' in Brazilian Telenovelas": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by University of Sao Paulo communication professor Esther Hamburger. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall. Free. 764–9537.*

★"The Role of the Ambassador in Ensuring Effective Foreign Policy: Three Ambassadors Discuss Their Experiences": U-M School of Public Policy. Panel discussion with 3 former American diplomats, the former ambassador to Canada (and Michigan governor) James Blanchard, former ambassador to Brazil Melvyn Levitsky, and Ann Arborite Ron Weiser, a former ambassador to Slovakia. *3:30–5:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. Free. 615–3893.*

★"Imitation and Epic Coherence: The Odysseys of 'Paradise Lost,' Books 2–4": U-M Classics Department Gerald F. Else Lecture in the Humanities. Lecture by Yale University comparative literature professor David Quint. *4 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 764–0360.*

★"Constantine, Christianity, and the Classical Tradition": U-M Center for Judaic Studies. Talk by WSU art and art history professor Sara Bassett. *4–5:30 p.m., 1324 East Hall, 530 Church. Free. 615–1287.*

★Ypsilanti–Ann Arbor Area Robotics Club. All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and informally discuss their current gadgets and toys. Legos Mindstorms robots and radio-controlled cars available for kids entertainment. *7 p.m., Corsa Instruments, 2370 Abbott (off Jackson Rd., behind KFC). Free. 332–1000.*

"Coffees from Around the World": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's Coffee Company roastmaster Allen Leibowitz discusses and offers taste samples of Zingerman's coffees. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 420 Detroit St. $15. Reservations required. 663–3400.*

★"Easy Care Orchids": Whole Foods Market. Talk by Orchids by Ohlman owner Lawrence Ohlman. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★"Aging and Evolutionary Medicine": U-M Explore Evolution Theme Semester Public Lecture Series. Lecture by University College London biology professor Linda Partridge. Reception follows. *7 p.m., 1800 Chemistry, 930 North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★John Grogan: Liberty Borders. This *Philadelphia Inquirer* columnist discusses ***Marley & Me: Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog,*** his entertaining tribute to his "broke the mold" yellow Lab. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★Opening Week Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library. See 20 Monday. Tonight: performance by **Mark "Mr. B" Braun,** the world-renowned local boogie-woogie and blues pianist. 7–8 p.m.

★"Playfest 2006": U-M Theater and Drama Department. See 20 Monday. Tonight: ***Field of Black Orchids,*** Ariel Shari Jones's drama about a rape in a small town. 7 p.m.

★"Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about the Larch": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. Bill Heston discusses this deciduous conifer. *7:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 747–6493.*

"Watermarks": Jewish Community Center. Screening of Yaron Silberman's 2004 documentary about the champion women swimmers of Hakoah, the legendary Jewish sports club in Vienna who dominated national competitions and escaped Nazi persecution. The film was a big hit at the 2005 Ann Arbor Jewish Film Festival. *7:30 p.m., U-M Hillel Auditorium, 1429 Hill. $8 (students with ID, free). 971–0990.*

The Department of Communication Studies presents a Howard R. Marsh lecture on
Democracy and the Media

Art, Culture and Politics: An Evening with Frank Rich

Op-Ed Columnist, The New York Times

Monday, March 20, 2006, 7:30 pm
Rackham Auditorium, The University of Michigan
Mr. Rich will do a book signing, sponsored by Nicola's Books.

Contact the Department of Communication Studies (734-764-0423) for more information.

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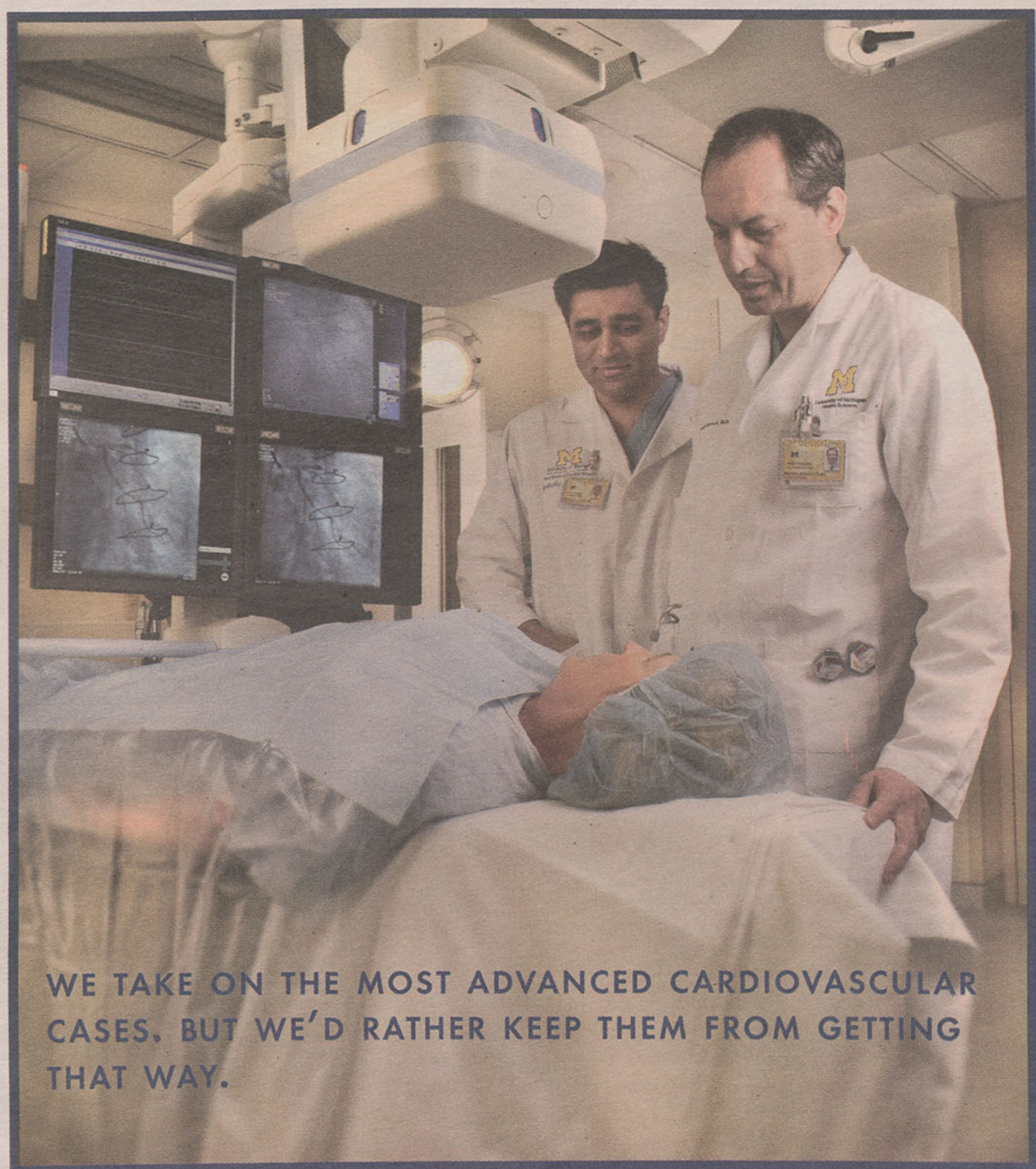

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22 WEDNESDAY *continued*

"Jackie O": U-M Opera Theater. *March 22, 24, & 26.* Visiting director Nicolette Molnar directs U-M opera students in U-M music professor Michael Daugherty's 1998 pop opera about 60s icons Andy Warhol, Maria Callas, and Jackie Kennedy Onassis. The acclaimed score is a deftly eclectic amalgam that ranges from what one fan describes as "Verdiesque arias and brilliantly inventive contrapuntal vocal excursions to pop tunes and blues riffs." Sung in English. *Note: Jackie O* is the topic of the closing session of the U-M conference on "Opera in the Americas," March 23–26 (see listings). *7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $16 & $22 (students with ID, $9) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**"Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price": The Planet.** Screening of Robert Greenwald's 2005 documentary about the effects of Wal-Mart's low prices and business practices on a family business owner, a California preacher, workers in Florida, and families struggling to fight the retail giant. *8 p.m., The Planet, 1112½ South University. Free. 994–4545.*

★**"Hope: Our Better Angels and Contributions from Hurt": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Talk by psychotherapist **Peter Fleming,** one of the Gestalt therapists who helped revolutionize psychotherapy in the late 60s and early 70s. Fleming was a big influence in the 70s on young local therapists, many of whom went to Italy to study at the Pellin Institute, which Fleming founded and still runs. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a reception. *8 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

Danu: The Ark. Fresh, energetic versions of traditional Celtic ballads and dance tunes by this acclaimed young septet from Waterford, Ireland. Their sound features dazzlingly dense and vibrant textures, powerful rhythms, and the warm, clear, affecting vocals of singer Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Citizen Improv": Improv Inferno. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Full Frontal Comedy": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 15 Wednesday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 21 Tuesday Events listing. **Film Jam.** Screenings of films by local amateur filmmakers (1 p.m.) and short films by a festival judge TBA. (3 p.m.). Mich., 1 & 3 p.m. **Competition Screening.** Mich., 7 & 9:30 p.m. **Noncompetition Screening "Out Night."** Gay and lesbian films TBA. Mich., 8 & 10 p.m.

23 THURSDAY

★**"Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *March 23 & 30.* Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered at the Northeast Branch (10–11 a.m.) on March 22 & 29 and at the Malletts Creek Branch (6:30–7:30 p.m.) on March 23 & 30. *10–11 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

"Once upon a Time": Wild Swan Theater. *March 23–25.* This award-winning local children's theater presents a collection of children's classics that includes "Three Billy Goats Gruff," "Reynard the Fox," and others. Geared toward audiences ages 4–8. As with all Wild Swan productions, the play is interpreted in American Sign Language. Backstage touch tours and audio descriptions are available for blind audience members (call 995–0530). Cast: Hillary Cohen, Sandy Ryder, Michelle Trane-Lanzi. *10:30 a.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $10 (children, $8) in advance or at the door. 995–0530.*

★**"Providing Care to Buddhist Patients": U-M Health System Multicultural Health Series.** Talk by Southeastern Michigan Buddhist Peace Fellowship representative Jacqueline Kurtz. *Noon–1 p.m., Mott Children's Hospital Auditorium, 1505 Simpson (off E. Medical Center Dr.). Free. 936–9836.*

★**"Opera in the Americas—American Opera": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** *March 23–26.* Scholars from around the country gather to discuss the history of opera in the Western Hemisphere at this conference held in conjunction with U-M Opera Theater productions of James P. Johnson's *The Dreamy Kid* and *De Organizer* on March 23 and 25 and of Michael Daugherty's *Jackie O* on March 22, 24, & 26 (see listings). The conference begins today with introductions followed at 2 p.m. by **"My Adventures, Mostly Pleasant, in Operaland,"** a keynote address by the Pulitzer Prize–winning U-M composer **William Bolcom.** Also, talks on **"Loci of Production"** (3–5:30 p.m.), ranging from "The Trials and Tribulations of Operatic Production in 19th-Century America" to "Race, Religion, and Magic in Mexican Opera of the 1940s." *1:30–5:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free. 936–3518.*

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. *2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971–6261, 485–5007.*

★**"American Green: The Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Lawn": U-M Program in the Environment.** Talk by Case Western Reserve University history and law professor Ted Steinberg. Followed by remarks by U-M English professor John Knott and Matthaei and Arb director Bob Grese. *4 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 764–6453.*

★**"The Disappearing Inca? Architecture as History in a Colonial Peruvian Parish": U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.** Talks by U-M history professors Diane Hughes and Rebecca Scott. *4–6 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State (south side of Angell Hall). Free. 647–0844.*

★**"The War in Iraq": U-M School of Public Policy.** Lecture by **Lt. General David Petraeus,** who commanded the 101st Airborne during the first year of the Iraqi war and the Multinational Security Transition Command from June 2004 to September 2005. *4–5:30 p.m., U-M Business School Hale Auditorium, 701 Tappan. Free. 764–3490.*

★**"Frozen Angels": U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series/Ann Arbor Film Festival.** Screening of Eric Black and Frauke Sandig's 2005 documentary about the future of human reproductive technology and the ethical implications of the biotech age. Followed by a discussion with the filmmakers. In conjunction with the U-M Explore Evolution Theme Semester. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–0397.*

★**Robert Hershon: U-M English Department.** *See review, p. 83.* Reading by this Hanging Loose Press coeditor who writes informal, easygoing poems that uncover bits of humor and emotion hidden in quotidian moments. A *Wall Street Journal* critic praised Hershon's "impish wit with its trenchant edge." *5 p.m., Residential College Auditorium, 701 East University. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"Everyday Life in Ancient Assyria": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** Lecture by Sweet Briar (Virginia) College anthropology professor Lynn Rainville. Followed by a reception. *5:30 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 647–4167.*

★**"CAM 305: Memory": Whole Foods Market.** *March 23 & 30.* Talk by local holistic health care practitioner Malcolm Sickels. *7 p.m., 210 Little Lake Dr. (Mar. 23), suite 10, off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb, and Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom (Mar. 30), 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"Overcoming Chronic Pain: A New Perspective": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local acupuncturist Gary Merel. *7–9 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"10 Most Popular Herbs": People's Food Co-op Herbal Wisdom Series.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**Opening Week Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** See 20 Monday. Tonight: performance by **Tumbao,** a local Cuban jazz quintet led by saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. 7–8 p.m.

★**Ken Foster: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This New Orleans–based fiction writer reads ***The Dogs Who Found Me,*** his memoir about the stories of a dozen dogs he has rescued, from a Border collie at a shopping mall to a pit bull in a Mississippi truck stop. Initially reluctant, Foster set a 4-hour time limit for placing the first strange dog he brought into his New York City apartment, only to discover that this would be the first of many dogs who would seemingly choose him to lead them, one way or another, to their new home. Dogs on leashes welcome to attend. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

Children of Uganda: University Musical Society. *March 23 & 24. See review, p. 79.* Joyous, vibrant traditional Ugandan song and dance by this renowned troupe of 20 orphans, who range in age from 8 to 18. Directed by Ugandan choreographer Frank Katoola, the dancers performs a dozen Ugandan historical, festival, and social dances dressed in

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vividly colored traditional clothing. The dances are accompanied by singing in several of Uganda's 52 languages (including English) and an array of drums and other percussion instruments. Proceeds support the Daughters of Charity orphanage in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, where most of the dancers live with some 500 other orphans. *7 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $18–$40 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**"Playfest 2006": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** See 20 Monday. Tonight: ***Lydia,*** Mark Rizik's drama, set early in the 20th century, about a young girl, disenchanted with her life and the people around her, who seeks for some meaning, then for an escape, and finally for revenge. 7 p.m.

★**"Art, Life, & New York City: The Art Capital of the World": Concordia University.** Slide-illustrated talk by Concordia College (Bronxville, New York) gallery director Serdar Arat. *7:30 p.m., Concordia Riverside Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–4616.*

★**"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design.** See 14 Tuesday. Tonight: **"The Women of the Clemency Project"** features readings by Battered Women's Clemency Project members Jean Federico, Serena Gordon, and Mary Heinen, and Clemency Project founder Susan Fair. Followed by a panel discussion with the readers and Clemency Project coordinator Carol Jacobsen and Clemency Project attorney Lynn D'Orio. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Union Wolverine Room.

★**"Treasure Island": Young Actors Guild.** *March 23–25.* Sam Richardson directs young actors in his adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale full of derring-do and buried treasure. *7:30 p.m., Eberwhite School, 800 Soule Blvd. Free. 712–4172.*

"De Organizer" and "The Dreamy Kid": U-M Opera Theater. *March 23 & 25.* Visiting director Nicolette Molnar directs U-M opera students in U-M jazz professor James Dapogny's reconstruction of 2 one-act operas by the early jazz composer-pianist James P. Johnson. *De Organizer,* which features a libretto by Langston Hughes, is a blues opera about sharecroppers, and *The Dreamy Kid,* with a libretto by Eugene O'Neill, is about a black man on the run from the law who is torn between the need to escape and his fear of being cursed if he doesn't stay to visit his dying grandmother. *7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $16 & $22 (students with ID, $9) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**Ben Pierce: U-M School of Music.** This University of Arkansas euphonium and tuba professor, and U-M alum, performs works TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

The Ashley Statfeld Band: Canterbury House. Laid-back, swinging reggae-tinged folk-rock by this local quartet led by Statfeld, a singer-guitarist who sings in a high, nasal, penetrating voice. With guitarist Stephan Wunderlich, bassist Derek Caldwell, and drummer-percussionist Pat Frank. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $5–$10 donation. 764–3162.*

★**Creative Arts Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Program TBA by this accomplished U-M music student ensemble, which "raised the roof" at a recent Edgefest and has performed at New York's Knitting Factory and at the Ford Detroit International Festival. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Eddie from Ohio: The Ark. This highly regarded acoustic quartet from Arlington, Virginia, is known for its resonant vocal harmonies, ace musicianship, and upbeat, well-crafted original songs. "Imagine Crosby, Stills, and Nash in their heyday, backed by Bela Fleck and the Flecktones," says *Dirty Linen* magazine, and Austin, Texas, radio DJ David Obermann says it evokes "shades of Washington Squares, Uncle Bonsai, and 10,000 Maniacs—but still unique." *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Leo Dufour: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 23–25.* One of Canada's top stand-up comics, Dufour is an observational humorist whose monologues are known for their off-the-wall whimsicality, antic theatricality, and twisted topical humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 (Thurs.) & $8 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness": Improv Inferno. See 2 Thursday. 8 & 10 p.m.

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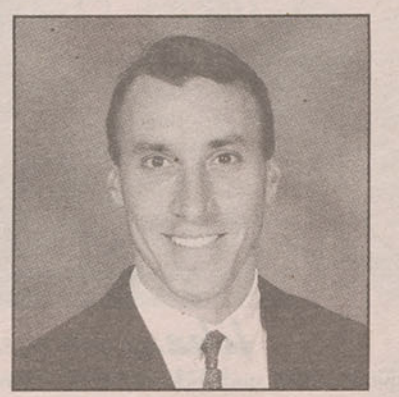

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23 THURSDAY *continued*

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 15 Wednesday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 21 Tuesday Events listing. Screening of short films by a festival judge TBA. Preceded at 1 p.m. by a talk on the digital video editing system **AVID.** Mich., 3 p.m. **Competition Screening.** Mich., 7 & 9:30 p.m. **Noncompetition Screening.** Feature films TBA. Mich., 8 & 10 p.m.

24 FRIDAY

★**"Opera in the Americas—American Opera": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** See 23 Thursday. Today: A session on **"Other Musics, Other Arts, and American Opera"** (9 a.m.–12:15 p.m.) features talks on topics ranging from "America's Operatic Quest and the 'Fall' of the Broadway Musical" to "Hollywood in Korngold." The topics in an afternoon session on **"Mythologies and Stereotypes"** (2–5 p.m.) range from "Harry Partch and Meredith Monk: Maverick Approaches to Opera; or, When Is an Opera an Opera?" to "Hispanic Opera Today: Los Angeles and Mexico City" and "Quakers and Cowboys: Mythologies and Stereotypes of Americans in Italian Opera." 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

"Once upon a Time": Wild Swan Theater. See 23 Thursday. 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

★**"Photography as a Tool for Social Activism": U-M Museum of Art.** Talk by **Kenro Izu,** whose photos are currently on display at the UMMA. *Noon, UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**Lenten Recital Series: American Guild of Organists.** See 3 Friday. Today: U-M music school grad student James Wagner and Plymouth First United Methodist Church organist Marcia Van Oyen. 12:15 p.m.

51st Annual Flea Market: Ann Arbor Women's City Club. *March 24 & 25.* A giant sale of art, books, furniture, jewelry, linens, toys, games, baked goods, retro items, collectibles, and pink and white elephant items. Arrive early: every year, several hundred power shoppers gather outside before the doors open. No strollers. *1–5:30 p.m. (Mar 24) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Mar. 25), Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free admission. 662–3279.*

★**"Freud's 'Massenpsychologie und Ich-Analyse'": U-M German and Slavic Department.** Talk by U-M visiting Germanic languages and literature professor Stefan Jonsson. *2–4 p.m., 3308 Modern Languages, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764–8018.*

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Arizona. *3 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

U-M Baseball vs. Oakland. *March 24 & 26 (single games) and 25 (doubleheader).* Home opener. U-M baseball is a very popular spectator sport: tickets are cheap and always available, the level of play is very high, and Ray Fisher Stadium—one of the few northern university parks with enclosed bleachers—is a great place to watch a game. The crowds number between 500 and 800 early in the season, growing to 2,000 to 3,000 as the weather and the competition heat up. *3 p.m. (Mar. 24) & 1 p.m. (Mar. 25 & 26), Ray Fisher Stadium. $5 (youths age 12 & under, $3; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

★**Jeff Wawrzaszek: Ann Arbor District Library.** Magic show, with lots of audience participation, by this award-winning magician for kids ages 3 & up. *7–7:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Opening Week Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** See 20 Monday. Tonight: performance by **Troupe Ta'amullat,** a veteran local multiethnic dance troupe whose repertoire includes North African, Near Eastern, and Central Asian music and dance. Ibrahim Farrah of *Arabesque* calls it "the best amateur [Near Eastern] folkloric troupe in the U.S." 7–8 p.m.

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** See 17 Friday. Today: prose by **Uwem Akpan** and poetry by **Jen Michaels.** *7 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. 615–3710.*

"Melody on Ice 2006: Blast from the Past": Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. *March 24–26.* This annual show features more than 200 talented area skaters from tots to seniors, performing this year to music from the 50s to the 90s. Also, performances by 2006 USFSA junior class national champions **Kendra Moyle and Andy Seitz,** junior class national silver medalists **Evan Bates and Emily Samuelson,** novice class national silver medalists **Madison and Kieffer Hubbell,** and the reigning junior class national champions, the **Hockettes.** *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Tickets $10 (students*

fiction

Sarah Dunant
The dwarf and the courtesan

Sarah Dunant published more than half a dozen books before her first historical novel, *The Birth of Venus,* catapulted her to the top of the *New York Times* best-seller list in 2003. The book was set in Renaissance Florence in 1492, and her heroine, Alessandra Cecchi, was an intelligent sixteen-year-old with considerable artistic talent, living in such sheltered innocence that, as she says in one of Dunant's many tongue-in-cheek lines, "I had never even seen a public execution."

Fiammetta Bianchini, the heroine of Dunant's new book, *In the Company of the Courtesan,* is only five years older than Alessandra and shares many of her qualities, but is far from innocent: "By my first confession I already knew things I couldn't tell the priest." Fiammetta is a prostitute. But no common lady of the night is she—Fiammetta is a courtesan. She does not simply service the physical desires of the rich and powerful: her elegant house is part brothel but also part literary and artistic salon and part gourmet restaurant.

Courtesan is told in the voice of Bucino Teodoldi, Fiammetta's pimp. But he too is no ordinary procurer. Bucino is a dwarf whose strikingly ugly visage masks, from those not willing to look more closely, a lively curiosity and intelligence—plus plenty of street smarts. Fiammetta, of course, is stunningly beautiful—Bucino takes half a page just to describe the glory of her hair—but, like him, she thinks fast on her feet and has a great deal of courage, and the two of them are true equals and fiercely loyal to each other. They need all her beauty, his determination, and their combined cunning, courage, and loyalty simply to survive Dunant's first chapter, which begins on May 6, 1527, the day of the Second Sack of Rome.

Dunant fills her books with fascinating historical details, but she also finds relevant resonances to our own time. In *Venus* she wrote of Savonarola, the historical priest who bears a striking resemblance to today's fundamentalist fanatics, while in *Courtesan* she explores a society that offered very limited options to women, a situation sadly still true in much of our world.

Courtesan is a meditation on the differences between appearances and inner qualities, but it is never predictable or sentimental. It's not giving away much to say that no knight in shining armor rescues Fiammetta, no beautiful princess falls in love with Bucino. But, as in *Venus,* Dunant's characters triumph in their experience of love, that "fever from which no one wants to be well."

Sarah Dunant reads from *In the Company of the Courtesan* at Nicola's Books on Wednesday, March 1.

—Sandor Slomovits

& seniors, $8; kids on laps, free) available in advance and at the door. 213–6768.

★"Playfest 2006": U-M Theater and Drama Department. See 20 Monday. Tonight: ***Teacher's Pet,*** Aimee Carter's drama about a detective who tries to solve the murder of a high school teacher in his classroom. 7 p.m.

Magnolia Electric Co: The Blind Pig. *All ages admitted.* Working-class rock 'n' roll in the tradition of Bob Seger and Crazy Horse–era Neil Young by this Chicago quartet led by Jason Molina, a singer-songwriter known for what one critic calls his "fractured, plaintive drawl and his self-fearing ruminations on his ability to transcend the base instincts of human darkness." *All Music Guide* critic Johnny Loftus describes the music on the band's debut CD *What Comes After the Blues* as "a blend of ruminating melodrama, comfortable instrumentation, and threads of American musical tradition from creaky blues and mournful folk all the way to sedate indie balladry and the steady hand of classic rock radio." Opening acts are **Destroyer**, the pseudonym of Vancouver pop-rock singer-songwriter Dan Bejar of the New Pornographers, and **Nedelle,** a highly regarded indie pop singer-songwriter from San Francisco known for her sunny, limpid vocals and unpretentiously introspective lyrics. *7:30–10:15 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, $12 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"Mr. B's 9th Annual Blues & Boogie Piano Celebration": The Ark. *March 24 & 25.* Ann Arbor's own world-renowned blues pianist, Mark "Mr. B" Braun, hosts 2 nights of blues and boogie-woogie piano that feature **Dave Burrell,** a prominent New York City jazz pianist with a percussive, heavily syncopated style, and **Hilton Ruiz,** a renowned composer-pianist whose music blends the rhythmic and improvisational urgency of bop with Afro-Cuban passion and swing. Also joining the festivities again this year is **Bob Seeley,** the veteran Detroit blues pianist renowned for his electrifying, passionate renditions of boogie classics. The show features solo sets by each performer, followed by a series of duets. *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $27.50 (Mar. 24) & $30 (Mar. 25) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★"Treasure Island": Young Actors Guild. See 23 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

4th Friday Fling Advanced Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Don Theyken calls dances to music TBA. No partner needed. Wear nonslip shoes. All dances taught. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10. 665–8863.*

★Kyoko Kashiwagi: EMU Music Department. This Muse String Quartet violinist is joined by EMU piano professor Joel Schoenhals for an evening of chamber music by Beethoven, Debussy, and Prokofiev. *8 p.m., EMU Alexander Bldg. Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★Aaron Berofsky and Thomas Sauer: U-M School of Music. U-M violin professor Berofsky and Mannes College of Music (New York City) piano professor Sauer perform an all-Mozart program. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Falling Up: Canterbury House. Debut performance of this local jazz quartet featuring saxophonists Andrew Bishop and Jeff Walton, drummer Chad Hochberg, and bassist Andrew Kratzat. The program includes music by Bill Evans, Warne Marsh, Ornette Coleman, and other jazz luminaries. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $5–$10 donation. 764–3162.*

Laurie McClain: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran Nashville-based country-folk singer-songwriter known for the disarmingly untamed sweetness of her singing and the offbeat, unguarded visionary reach of

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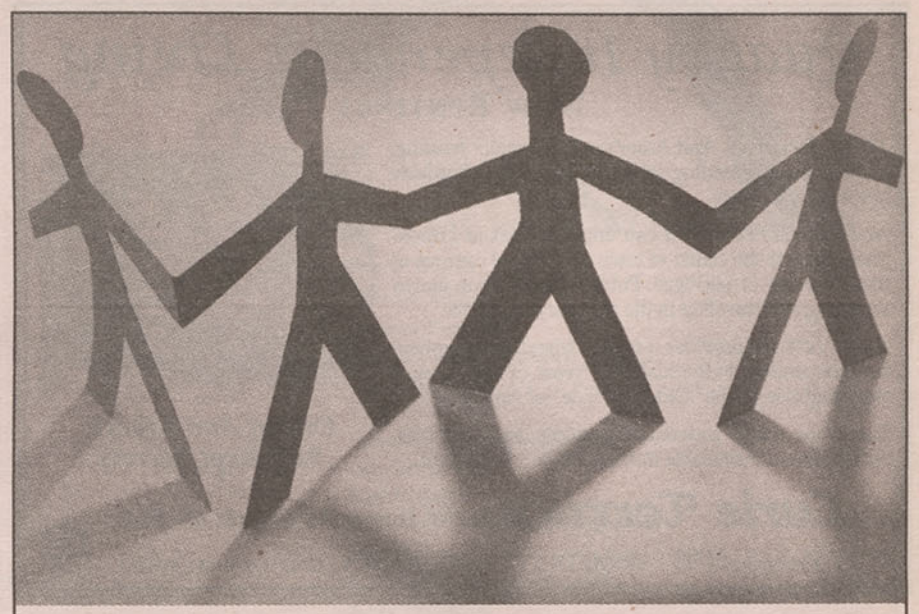

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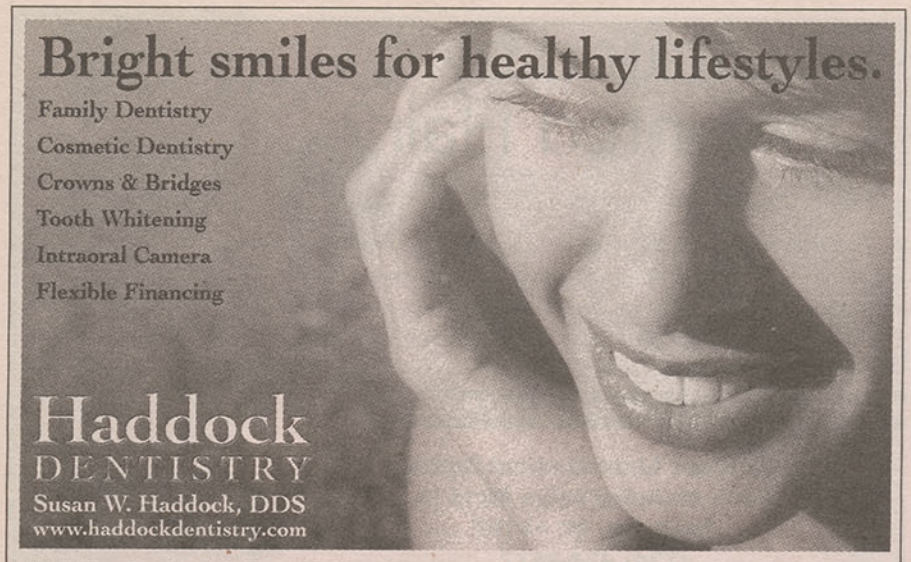

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24 FRIDAY *continued*

her lyrical sensibility. Her latest CD is a tribute to the late Kate Wolf. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"Pippin": Greenhills School. See 17 Friday. 8 p.m.

Children of Uganda: University Musical Society. See 23 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Jackie O": U-M Opera Theater. See 22 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Improv with the Vegans": Dreamland Theater. See 10 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Leo Dufour: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Women's History Month Celebration: DWOT Productions. Performances by local women performing artists in various media, including the stand-up comics Germaine Gebhard and Crystal P, poets Lauren Whitehead and Molly Raynor of Ann Arbor Wordworks, the classical Indian dance troupe Sadhana Dancers, and Quartetto Fortuna, the U-M music school resident graduate string quartet. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. $8 at the door only. 995–1467.*

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

Zion 1: The Blind Pig. Underground hip-hop duo from Oakland, California, known for its sharp-witted point of view, dexterous rhyming, and fresh, funky rhythms. The duo has an acclaimed new CD, *True & Livin'. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 10:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 15 Wednesday. 11 p.m.

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival See 21 Tuesday Events listing. **Film Jam.** Screenings of films by local amateur filmmakers (1 p.m.) and short films by a festival judge TBA. (3 p.m.). Mich., 3 p.m. **Festival Competition Screening.** Mich., 7 & 9:30 p.m. **Noncompetition Screening. "MUSIC."** Films TBA. Mich., 8 & 10 p.m.

25 SATURDAY

★**"Opera in the Americas—American Opera": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** See 23 Thursday. Today's program is highlighted by a performance of ***La Purpura de la Rosa*** (see 2 p.m. listing below). Also, a session on **"Adaptations, Appropriation, Censorship"** (8:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.) features talks on topics ranging from "Mozart's Operas on the 19th-Century American Stage" to "Jesuit Musical Drama in the Paraguay Missions" and "*Porgy and Bess:* An American *Wozzek*." The topics in an afternoon session on **"Singers in the Americas: Talent, Training, and the Market"** (2–4:30 p.m.) range from "America's Highly Developed Vocal Training System—and What It Isn't Teaching Our Young Singers" to "Ethics in the Business of Singing." 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

★**"Life Through the Ages Discovery Day": U-M Exhibit Museum.** A variety of family-oriented activities and experiments exploring the evolution of life, including live animal demos, a fossil dig, DNA extraction, a battle of the beaks to learn how birds compete for food with different tools, films about prehistoric animals, and more. Also, a chance to view the museum's fossil displays and new *Explore Evolution* exhibit. In conjunction both with the U-M Explore Evolution Theme Semester and 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *9 a.m.–5 p.m., Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes. Free. Preregistration required. 764–0478.*

51st Annual Flea Market: Ann Arbor Women's City Club. See 24 Friday. 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

★**"Launching Your Family History Project": Ann Arbor District Library.** Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County (GSWC) librarian Bobbie Snow is the keynote speaker at this symposium for beginning genealogists. Also, talks by other genealogists, demos of Internet genealogy resources, and presentations on local genealogy resources and services by representatives from the AADL, the GSWC, the DAR, and the Ann Arbor Family History Center. *9:15 a.m.–1 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

"14th Annual Spring Gallup": Ann Arbor Jaycees/Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan. TAC-sanctioned 5 km run and a 5 km noncompetitive walk through Gallup Park. Also, a 440 m kids fun run, and other kids activities. Awards for overall male and female winners, and for male and female winners in various age divisions. Proceeds to benefit the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan's Camp Bold Eagle. Registration begins at 8 a.m. in the Huron High School cafeteria. *9:30 a.m. (race & walk) & 10:30 a.m. (kids fun run), Gallup Park. Entry fee: $20 in advance by Mar. 10, $25 in advance after Mar. 10 and day of race. Kids run: $5. Entry forms available at local running stores and on-line at hfmich.org. 332–4226.*

★**Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Preservation Division.** All invited to help city parks natural area preservation staff maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Also, city staffers lead a short nature walk at the end of each workday. Wear comfortable pants and closed-toe shoes. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. Today: a trip to **Dolph Park** to improve and maintain the trails of one of the city's premier birdwatching spots. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., Dolph Park, meet at the parking lot on Wagner Rd. Free. 996–3266.*

★**"Potato Seeds, Seed Potatoes, and Sweet Potato Slips: Growing Sweet Potatoes and Bolivian Potatoes in Michigan": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by Project Grow heirloom vegetable expert Royer Held. *10–11:30 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

34th Annual "Dance for Mother Earth" Ann Arbor Powwow: U-M Native American Student Association/Office of Multiethnic Student Affairs. *March 25 & 26.* More than 10,000 visitors are expected to attend this gathering of Native Americans from throughout the Great Lakes area, traditionally the largest such gathering in the state. Costumes range from the informal to spectacular authentic ceremonial outfits. The program includes social dancing and demonstrations of different styles of Native American dance, including fancy, traditional, grass dress, and jingle dress. The big attractions this weekend are children and adult dancing contests in a variety of styles. The dancers are accompanied by several different Native American drumming ensembles from all over North America. Grand entries at noon & 7 p.m. Other attractions include display and sale of traditional crafts and food. *10:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Crisler Arena. Daily admission: $10 (students, $7; seniors 60 & older and kids ages 4–12, $5; kids 3 & under, free; family, $25) per day & $15 weekend pass in advance and at the door. To charge by phone: 763–TKTS; information: 647–6999.*

★**Easter Bunny: Briarwood Mall.** Kids of all ages can chat with this lagomorphic treatster. Bring a camera or have a photo taken for a nominal fee. *11 a.m.–8 p.m., Briarwood mall center court. Free. 769–9610.*

"Once upon a Time": Wild Swan Theater. See 23 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"Shocking News? The Current State of Electronic Music": U-M School of Music Stearns Lecture.** Talk by U-M musicology professor James Wierzbicki. *2 p.m., 506 Burton Bell Tower. Free. 763–4726.*

★**"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design.** See 14 Tuesday. Today: **"Coping with Incarceration: Families and Friends Speak Out,"** a panel discussion by family and friends of prisoners. 2 p.m., Michigan Union Anderson Room D.

"Quest for Survival": Waterloo Natural History Association. Science Alive members display some live animals and discuss the threats they face from other creatures in the wild. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) $2 per child. Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.*

"The Three Little Pigs": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Performance Network's children's theater troupe performs James Ingagiola, Charles Stout, and Katie Lee's musical, an adaptation of the classic fairy tale. When Mrs. Pigton asks her 3 children to build her a home, sibling rivalry and bickering prevent them from cooperating on the project. For prekindergartners through 5th-graders. Cast TBA. *2 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (youth 16 & under, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

★**Opening Week Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** See 20 Monday. Today: performance by the

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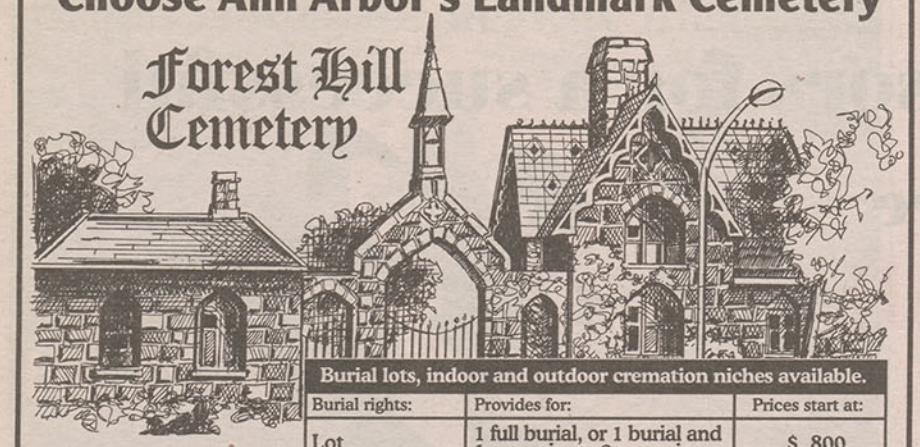

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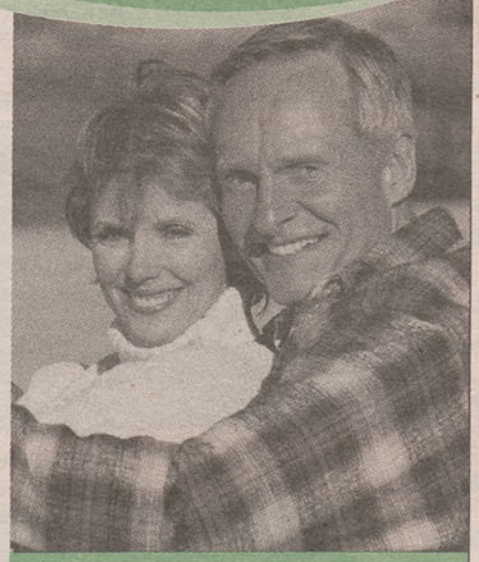

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25 SATURDAY *continued*

local professional **juggler-comedian Jonathan Park.** 2–3 p.m.

★"La Purpura de la Rosa": U-M Institute for the Humanities. U-M opera theater students present a production of the first opera ever performed in the Americas, Pedro Calderon de la Barca and Tomas Torrejon y Velasco's 1701 adaptation of the myth of Venus and Adonis. The script is from a critical performing edition by U-M musicology professor Louise Stein, who introduces the performance. *2–4:30 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway). Free. 936–3518.*

★Read Across America: Barnes & Noble. All kids invited for a Dr. Seuss storytime and related activity. In conjunction with the month-long national reading program Read Across America. *3 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★Huron-Pioneer Dodgeball Finals: Battle for the Cup: Huron High School and Pioneer High School Key Clubs. The champion dodge ball teams from each school battle for the coveted Dodgeball Victors Cup. *4–8 p.m., Pioneer High School Small Gym, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Free. 994–2040.*

"Kids Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids ages 5–10 invited for **Mexican Fiesta,** with Mexican food and a piñata. Also, kids can decorate a sombrero. *6:30–10 p.m., JCC gym, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $22 (JCC members, $18). Reservations required. 971–0990.*

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Lindenwood. *7 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

"56th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools. *March 25 & 26.* More than 800 public school students perform in these lively concerts. Tonight: the Tappan, Forsythe, and Slauson bands, the Pioneer and Huron Symphony bands, and the Pioneer Varsity and Concert bands. *7 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Tickets (cost TBA) in advance from band members and at the door. 996–3210.*

Jeremy Kittel: Saline Fiddlers ReStrung. This National Scottish Fiddle Champion, a former member of the Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic, has a repertoire that includes traditional fiddle tunes and originals blending elements of classical, jazz, bluegrass, and other musical fiddle traditions. He is accompanied by area guitarist **Bob Gerics,** named "outstanding soloist" at the Montreux Jazz Festival, and bassist **Andrew Kratzat,** a U-M student named best student instrumentalist by *Down Beat* while still in high school. Opening act is the Fiddlers ReStrung, an ensemble of Saline High School fiddlers that performs American folk, bluegrass, and Celtic music. *7 p.m., Saline High School Ellen Ewing Performing Arts Center, 1300 Campus Pkwy. (off Industrial, north from E. Michigan), Saline. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance and at the door. 429–7210.*

★"Playfest 2006": U-M Theater and Drama Department. See 20 Monday. Tonight: ***The Minotaur,*** Matthew Smith's retelling of the classical myth. In this version, King Minos transforms his stepdaughter into a beast to help him win his war against Athens, but his creation soon becomes his worst nightmare. 7 p.m.

★"Come Out and Play": Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project. All invited to bring their favorite card or board game to play. *7:30 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 995–9867.*

Cultural Show: U-M Persian Students Association. This lively show features student performances of traditional and contemporary Persian dance, comedy, and music. Afterparty. *7:30 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $9–$12 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; $12–$15 at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Melody on Ice 2006: Blast from the Past": Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. See 24 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★"Treasure Island": Young Actors Guild. See 23 Thursday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

"Mr. B's 9th Annual Blues & Boogie Piano Celebration": The Ark. See 24 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

4th Saturday "Tried and New" Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Glen Morningstar and Drake Meadow call contras, with music by Marty Somberg and friends. Wear cool, casual clothes and nonslip shoes. No partner needed. All dances taught. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $9 (AACTMAD members, $8; students & first-timers, $5). 665–7704.*

★Mikhail Voskresensky: U-M School of Music. This Moscow Conservatory piano professor performs a program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

18th Annual Amazin' Blue Spring Concert (U-M University Activities Center). This popular 15-member U-M coed vocal ensemble performs a cappella renditions of Stevie Wonder's "Lately," Liz Phair's "Rock Me," and Seal's "Waiting for You," and other rock and pop songs. Finalists in the 1998 National Championship of College a Cappella at Carnegie Hall, Amazin' Blue has performed on campuses across the country and released several recordings, the latest of which is *South U and State. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $7 (students, $5) at the door. 763–1107.*

★Music Night: Dreamland Theater. Double bill, local singer-songwriter **Jason Voss** plays acoustic folk-punk with a raw dark edge. Ann Arbor singer-songwriter **Uncle Dave Lewis** plays shimmering experimental ambient classical music and the occasional song with lyrics like "When I kiss you, you look like John F. Kennedy." *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

"Tancredi": University Musical Society. Alberto Zedda conducts the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in a concert version of Rossini's neglected and complicated 1813 opera, based on Voltaire's play *Tancrede,* about lovers hemmed in by feuding families and political intrigue in medieval Byzantium. The performance features **Ewa Podles,** the internationally renowned Polish contralto who created a huge sensation at her 1997 surprise UMS debut as a last-minute substitute for Cecilia Bartoli. "There is one conspicuous reason for reviving Rossini's *Tancredi* in our time—the availability of the Polish contralto Ewa Podles," says a *Globe and Mail* critic. With tenor Lawrence Brownlee and soprano Mariola Cantarero. The concert is preceded by a dinner ($40) in the U-M Alumni Center that features a talk by UMS programming director Michael Kondziolka. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$60 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Pippin": Greenhills School. See 17 Friday. 8 p.m.

"De Organizer" and "The Dreamy Kid": U-M Opera Theater. See 23 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Leo Dufour: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

International Folk Dancing. Balkan, Middle Eastern, and European line dancing, and occasional couple dancing, to recorded music. No partner needed. Preceded by instruction in tricky (7 p.m.) and easier (8 p.m.) dances. *9–11 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver (off Nixon). $3–$5 (students, $1). 995–0011.*

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

The Silver Jews: The Blind Pig. Veteran English indie rock band led by David Berman, a singer-songwriter whose verbally dense, emotionally volatile lyrics often provoke comparisons to Dylan. The band's current lineup, which includes Stephen Malkmus and Bob Nastovich of Pavement, is featured on its new CD, *Tanglewood Numbers,* a collection of dark, introspective lyrics set to resonant, upbeat rock 'n' roll. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. $18 at the door only. (Advance tickets sold out.) 996–8555.*

"Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret": Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 15 Wednesday. 11 p.m.

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 21 Tuesday Events listing. **Afternoon Shows.** Two matinees of films drawn from the competition screenings thus far. Mich., 1 & 3 p.m. **Competition Screening.** See Events listing above. Mich., 7 & 9:30 p.m. **Noncompetition Screening.** Films TBA. Mich., 3:30, 8, & 10 p.m. **Yankee Air Museum. "The Guns of Navarone"** (Carl Foreman, 1961). Classic WW II action tale. Gregory Peck, David Niven, Anthony Quinn. Greek food available. Followed by a museum tour. Reservations requested. $10–$15 donation. 483–4030. Yankee Air Museum (1 Willow Run, off Ecorse from Beck Road via I-94 exit 190, Ypsilanti), 6 p.m.

26 SUNDAY

★"Annual Waterfowl Watch and Early Birds Hike": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. All invited to join WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner to hike the lakeshore and check out the loons, grebes, ducks, and other waterfowl at this migration rest stop. Bring binoculars if you have some. *9–11:30 a.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp.*

(Take US-23 north to Six Mile Rd. exit and follow the signs.) Free ($4 park entry fee). 971–6337.

★"Our Disappearing Civil Liberties": Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. Talk by Michigan ACLU legal director Michael Steinberg. *10 a.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

★"Opera in the Americas—American Opera": U-M Institute for the Humanities. See 23 Thursday. The conference closes with a session on "*Jackie O* and American Opera Now" that includes talks by *Jackie O* composer Michael Daugherty, director Nicolette Molnar, CUNY English professor Wayne Koestenbaum, and the renowned opera critic Elise K. Kirk. 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

"Breakfast with Kabbalah": Chabad House. All invited to chat over breakfast with Chabad House rabbi Aharon Goldstein about kabbalah, Jewish mysticism, and other topics. *10:30 a.m., Chabad House, 715 Hill. $5 donation. 995–3276, 649–1116.*

"Mr. B and Bob Boogie-Woogie Family Show": The Ark. Family concert with Ann Arbor's own world-renowned blues pianist, **Mark "Mr. B" Braun** and veteran Detroit boogie & blues pianist **Bob Seeley.** In conjunction with Mr. B's annual "Blues & Boogie Piano Celebration" (see 24 Friday listing). *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 (kids age 5 & under and seniors age 65 & over, $5) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★"Internet Strategies for Genealogists": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Ford Genealogy Club president Sharon Brevoort. Followed by a talk by club librarian Bobbie Snow on **"How to Find and Use Newspapers."** *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 971–5763.*

★Opening Week Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library. See 20 Monday. Today: performance by **LaRon Williams,** a popular veteran local storyteller who specializes in African American stories presented in a wide range of dialects, gestures, and facial expressions to conjure all sorts of human, animal, and supernatural characters. He often accompanies his stories on African and African American folk instruments, and his repertoire includes folk, literary, historical, and musical tales. 2–3 p.m.

"Melody on Ice 2006: Blast from the Past": Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. See 24 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Jackie O": U-M Opera Theater. See 22 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 2 & 7 p.m.

★Salzedo Harp Duo: Huron Hills Baptist Church. The duo of Toledo Symphony harpists Nancy Lendrim and Jody Guinn perform music composed and arranged by Carlos Salzedo, the early-20th-century composer-harpist who revolutionized the technique of harp playing and created a school of playing still in use. *2:30 p.m., Huron Hills Baptist Church, 3150 Glazier Way. Free. 769–6299.*

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Boston College. *3 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

★Interview with Kenro Izu: U-M Museum of Art. Izu, whose photos are currently on display at the UMMA, gives a slide-illustrated talk about his work. Afterward, UMMA Asian art curator Maribeth Graybill interviews Izu about his work. *3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★"The Beak of the Finch": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center naturalist Tamara Convertino and Pfizer research scientist Paul Nugent lead a discussion of Jonathan Weiner's book (see 9 Thursday Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads listing). Refreshments. *3–5 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 997–1075.*

"56th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools. See 25 Saturday. Today: The Scarlett and Clague bands, Pioneer Symphony Band, and the Huron Varsity, Concert, and Symphony bands. 3 p.m.

★Playfest 2006: U-M Theater and Drama Department. See 20 Monday. Tonight: ***The Party,*** Harold Rothbart's drama about 2 college students whose trip to Greenwich Village to meet young women takes some surprising turns. 3 p.m.

★Faculty Recital: EMU Music Department. EMU music faculty TBA join forces for a recital of solo and ensemble chamber works for various instruments. *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Birmingham-First Chamber Choir: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Tom Trenney directs this highly regarded choir from First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, accompanied by the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings, in a performance of Bach's B Minor Mass, an emotionally powerful masterpiece of overwhelming grandeur composed toward the end of Bach's life. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $15 suggested donation. 663–0518.*

All Rivers at Once: Concordia University. This local professional vocal and instrumental ensemble performs reflective, introspective spiritual art music. Texts contain elements of Polish medieval sacred poetry, letters from WW II Japanese soldiers, and the wall-writing of Soviet political prisoners. Musical influences include Irish fiddling, Russian Orthodox chant, Georgian polyphony, and jazz and pop. *4 p.m., Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. $5 (students, free). 995–4616.*

★Rico Serbo & John Ellis: U-M School of Music. Tenor Serbo and pianist Ellis, both U-M music professors, perform a program of art song from various periods by Francesco Tosti, Henri Duparc, Joaquin Turina, Charles Gounod, Verdi, Strauss, and Debussy. *5 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★"Evensong": Boychoir of Ann Arbor. Boychoir founder Tom Strode directs this local ensemble in a setting of this traditional Anglican liturgy highlighted by Cambridge composer Charles Wood's double choir setting of "Hail, gladdening light," an exuberant expression of joy with soaring high treble parts, and William Smith's familiar setting of traditional evensong prayers. Also, English composer George Dyson's bright setting of the traditional evensong canticles "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" and 2 anthems, the Farrant/Hilton "Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake" and Herbert Howells's "Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks." The 22 trebles of the Boychoir are supplemented by teen members of Cantabile, the new Boychoir ensemble of boys ages 11–18 that includes both changed and unchanged voices, along with some men singers. Accompanist is National Shrine of the Little Flower (Royal Oak) organist and choirmaster Charles Kennedy. *5 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free; donations accepted. 663–5377.*

★Society for Women Engineers Book Club: Liberty Borders. All invited to join a discussion of Jonathan Weiner's ***The Beak of the Finch.*** (See 9 Thursday.) *6–8 p.m., Borders cafe, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★Arbor Brass: Zion Lutheran Church. Tim Krohn conducts this local brass ensemble of current and recent U-M music students in antiphonal brass works by Gabrieli, Janacek, and Strauss. *6 p.m., Zion Lutheran, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 994–4455.*

"Best of the Banff Mountain Film Festival": U-M Recreational Sports Outdoor Adventures. *March 26 & 27 (different programs).* This "Best of the Festival" tour features the best mountain and outdoor adventure films from the 2006 edition of the famous 3-day festival held every November in Banff, Alberta, a town in the Canadian Rockies. Also, informational displays by local outdoor groups. Door prizes. *6 p.m. (doors open at 5:15 p.m.), Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $10 in advance at Bivouac, $12 at the door. 764–3967.*

"Uncoupled": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 7 p.m.

Peggy Seeger: The Ark. *See review, p. 87.* Like her brother Mike and half-brother Pete, Seeger has been a pivotal figure in the American and English folk scene since the 50s. Her repertoire features both traditional Anglo-American ballads and lyrical songs and originals like the feminist anthem "I'm Gonna Be an Engineer." She sings in a clear soprano, and her guitar and banjo arrangements are known for their tasteful, inventive adaptations of traditional styles. Her latest Rounder CD, *Love Call Me Home,* includes 10 traditional North American songs and 2 new originals, the title song and the topical lament "Sing about These Hard Times." *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 8:30 p.m.

"The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 10 p.m.

"The Jim Jam": Improv Inferno. See 5 Sunday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 21 Tuesday Events listing. **Noncompetition Screenings.** Mich., noon & 2 p.m. (main theater) and 1 & 3 p.m. (screening room). **Awards Screening.** Mich., 5:45, 7, & 9 p.m.

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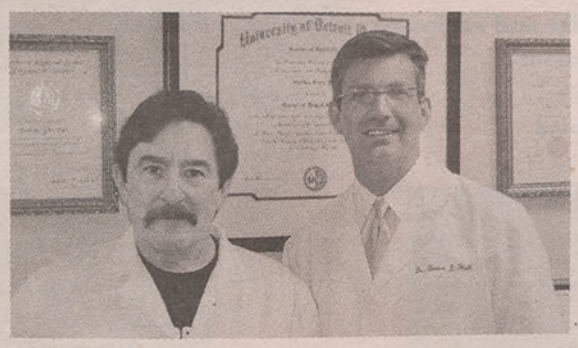

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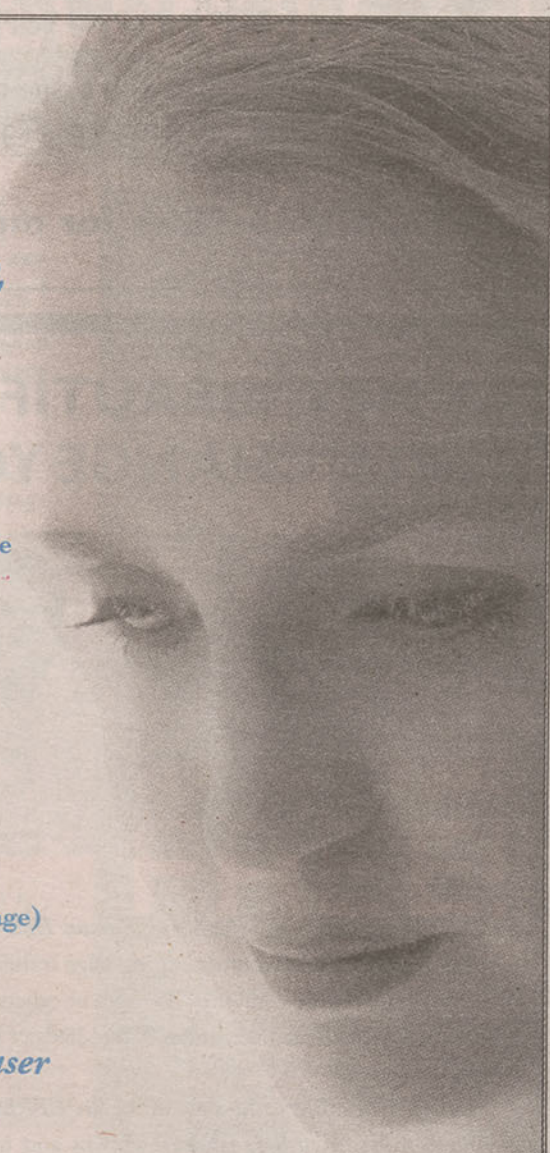

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EVENTS *continued*

27 MONDAY

★Raveevarn Choksombatchai: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning Guido Binda Lecture. Talk on a topic TBA by this Harvard architecture professor, a principal of LOOM, an architectural firm focusing on the combination of art, architecture, and environmental design. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–1300.*

★Anthony Hawley: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This University of Nebraska English professor reads from ***The Concerto Form,*** his collection of meditative landscapes and mindscapes. "With *The Concerto Form*, Anthony Hawley joins that international company of exploratory poets who celebrate at once the fugitive music and the mysteries of the tangible world," says poet Michael Palmer. "With great formal range, he addresses the here/not here, the vibrating strings of things as they are." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★Jazz Combos: U-M School of Music. Small music-student combos perform standards and originals. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Sarah Harmer: The Ark. Highly regarded young pop-folk singer-songwriter from Kingston, Ontario, known for the understated poetry and emotional nuance of her lyrics and for the elegant yet earthy sensuality of her singing. Her new Rounder CD, *All of Our Names,* is a collection of spare, lyrically sharp, insightful songs about love and other patches of rough road, and it encompasses a range of musical styles, from driving pop to gritty country-rock to a kind of chamber folk. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Music from the Inside Out" (Daniel Anker, 2005). *March 27 & 28.* Engrossing documentary that asks of members of the Philadelphia Orchestra, "What is music?" $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"Ballets Russes"** (Dan Geller & Dayne Goldfine, 2005). *March 27–30.* Affectionate documentary about this dance company from its founder's death in 1929 until its dissolution in 1962. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

28 TUESDAY

★Rane Arroyo: U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. This Puerto Rican poet and playwright reads from his poetry collection ***How to Name a Hurricane.*** *2:30–4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–0844.*

U-M Baseball vs. Bowling Green. *3 p.m., Ray Fisher Stadium. $5 (youths age 12 & under, $3; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

U-M Softball vs. Bowling Green. Home opener for the U-M team, the defending NCCA champion that was ranked #1 in preseason polls. *4 p.m., Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. $4 (youths age 12 & under, $2; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

★"Beyond 'A Room of One's Own': Feminism and Literary Studies": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by U-M English and women's studies professor Sidonie Smith. *4 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall. Free. 764–9537.*

★"Rightful Resistance in Rural China": Shaman Drum Bookshop. University of California political science professor **Kevin O'Brien** is on hand to sign copies of this study he cowrote with Liangjiang Li of how otherwise powerless people in rural China use the rhetoric and commitments of the central government to try to fight misconduct of local officials, open up clogged channels of participation, and push back the frontiers of the permissible. *4 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★"Le Crime de Monsieur Lange": U-M Institute for the Humanities. U-M screen arts and cultures professor Richard Abel introduces a screening of Jean Renoir's 1935 film based on a Jacques Prevert screenplay about the creation and demise of a utopian society. French, subtitles. In conjunction with the current Institute for the Humanities exhibit *"Fetes" by Jacques Prevert and Alexander Calder* (See Galleries). *4 p.m., Osterman Common Room, 0520 Rackham. Free. 936–3518.*

"The Basics of Cooking Fish": Whole Foods Market. Cooking demo by Whole Foods fish guy Brian Vom Steeg. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. $15. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

"Olive Oil": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Moutere Grove (New Zealand) olive oil maker Ed Scott discusses and offers taste samples of his favorite recipes using his organic olive oils. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's, 422 Detroit St. $20. Reservations required. 663–3400.*

★Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to discuss ***Confessions of an Economic Hit Man,*** John Perkins's best-selling memoir about his experiences working for an international consulting firm that worked to convince developing countries to accept enormous loans and to funnel that money to U.S. corporations. Once saddled with debt, these countries were vulnerable to U.S. government pressure for access to natural resources, military cooperation, and political support. *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★"Art by Michigan Prisoners": U-M School of Art and Design. See 14 Tuesday. Today: *The Nation* writer Christian Parenti, author of *Lockdown America: Police and Prisons in the Age of Crisis,* discusses **"The Criminal Justice Crackdown in a Historical Context."** 7:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room.

Dinner Dance: Tuesday Night Dancers. Ballroom dancing to live music by the Mike Wolverton Band. Includes fox-trots, waltzes, Latin and swing dancing, and more. Singles and couples welcome. Preceded at 7 p.m. by dinner. No jeans. *8–10:45 p.m., Grotto Club of Ann Arbor, 2070 W. Stadium. $17 in advance only. (517) 787–6367, (517) 592–5771.*

★Amy Porter: U-M Annual Henry Russel Lecture. Recital by this U-M flute professor, who is accompanied by pianist Christopher Harding. She is joined by flutist Yu-Chun Chen for the world premiere of U-M music professor Michael Daugherty's *Crystal* for alto flute, flute, and piano. The program also includes Mozart's Sonata in B-flat Major, Debussy's *Afternoon of a Faun,* Siegfried Karg-Elert's 4 Caprices, Francois Borne's *Carmen Fantaisie,* and Porter's arrangement of songs by Schubert, Prokofiev, and Benjamin Godard. The Russel Award is the U-M's highest honor, awarded annually to a faculty member who is especially distinguished in his or her field. Reception follows. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 647–7906.*

★Brian Joseph: The Ark "Take a Chance Tuesdays." Up-and-coming young California singer-songwriter and fingerpicking guitarist whose music blends folk and blues with jazz and pop elements in ways that have provoked comparisons to everyone from John Prine to Paul Simon and Randy Newman. "Joseph writes sweet, often funny songs about small moments with big meaning," says *Oakland Tribune* critic Chad Jones. Part of a monthly series of free concerts featuring lesser-known artists on the roster of the prestigious local management agency Fleming & Associates. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 761–1451.*

ICP Orchestra: Kerrytown Concert House. Led by the engaging and challenging pianist Misha Mengelberg, this zingy Dutch avant-jazz ensemble is acclaimed for its inventiveness, virtuosity, and wild stage antics. "If there's a more creative, lyrical, unpredictable band of more gifted soloists working now anywhere, please drop me a line," says *New Dutch Swing* author Kevin Whitehead, who compares the group to the Duke Ellington Orchestra in its heyday. Other members are trombonist Wolter Wierbos, trumpeter Thomas Heberer, violinist Mary Oliver, cellist Tristan Honsinger, contrabassist Ernst Glerum, percussionist Han Bennink, and reedmen Ab Baars and Michael Moore. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15, $20, & $30. Reservations recommended. 975–4376.*

"Tuesday Night Improv: Good and Evil": Dreamland Theater. See 14 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Music from the Inside Out" (Daniel Anker, 2005). See 27 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **"Ballets Russes"** (Dan Geller & Dayne Goldfine, 2005). See 27 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **U-M Institute for the Humanities. "Le Crime de Monsieur Lange"** (Jean Renoir, 1935). See Events listing above. FREE. 0520 Rackham, 4 p.m.

29 WEDNESDAY

★"Feigning Feminism, Fueling Backlash: What W Really Stands For": U-M Women's Studies McGuigan Lecture. Talk by Air America radio host **Laura Flanders,** author of *Bushwomen: Tales of a Cynical Species. 4 p.m., Rackham West Conference Room. Free. 763–2047.*

board games

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Scrabble at the Firefly

Novices and hotshots

S, Q, U, M, L, I, E.

Tom looks despairingly at his rack and then out the window of the Firefly Club. The fading light of dusk seems to represent his hopes of winning.

A table away, Amy plays a Z on a triple letter square to make "za" for thirty-one points.

"What's that?"

"Short for *pizza*. It's one of the new two-letter words."

"You're kidding."

"Look at the list," Amy says, and hands over a photocopied two-letter word list: *aa, fe, mm, xu,* all 125 of them.

Nearby, LaRon is telling a sad story: "I've had three bingos but no place to put them."

His opponent, Steve, plays "doosies." With Steve, it's not always clear whether he has misspelled or he's just hoping it looks right.

"Would you challenge that?" LaRon asks the room. Susan, bustling over with a drink, winks at Steve. "Don't trust that guy," she advises LaRon.

At the Firefly Club on Wednesdays, happy hour is devoted to Scrabble. For more than a year, Susan Chastain has opened her jazz nightclub at 5 p.m. once a week to all who want to play the world's best word game. The club provides the boards and tiles. You bring the brains.

Participants run the gamut from novices to hotshots, from teenagers to septuagenarians. Chastain's ebullient hospitality sets the tone: the atmosphere is unintimidating. Yet there's plenty of serious strategizing. Folks who think they're pretty good Scrabble players often get a rude awakening when they play outside their circle of family and friends—learning, perhaps, how foolish it is to hoard your Q or J, and how smart it is to trade in tiles early in the game.

Many who come to the Firefly are lifelong devotees of Scrabble, a game whose pleasures are enduring and uncanny. Like the perfect distances that Alexander Cartwright devised between the bases in baseball, Alfred Butts's genius is one of life's mysteries. The game he invented in 1938, with its fifteen-by-fifteen grid, its 100 letter tiles, and its bonus squares, still offers discoveries every time it's played.

Purists may balk at the bizarre words in the new, fourth edition of the official Scrabble dictionary. But don't worry if you don't know a qat from a cwm—the Firefly regulars are happy to share their tips. Some of us, anyway.

Across from Tom, I hook the S in "toast" to the end of "jog" to score twenty-one points. But Tom empties his rack with "milquetoasts" for a game-breaking ninety-eight. My long-suffering formidable opponent has finally given me my comeuppance.

—Michael Betzold

★**"Women's History Month Celebration": Ann Arbor District Library.** Activities include a talk by U-M art professor Marianetta Porter, a mixed-media and fiber artist known for her exquisitely crafted sculptural constructions evoking links to her African American heritage, and an interactive art project for teens and adults. Also, announcement of the youth, young adult, and adult winners of the community-wide Women's History Month essay contest sponsored by DWOT Productions, a local nonprofit educational organization. Refreshments. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Medical Advances in Bipolar Disorder": 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads.** Talk by U-M Depression Center bipolar disorders specialist Melvin McInnis, followed by a panel discussion with U-M Depression Center physicians Jon-Kar Zubieta, Cheryl King, and Juan Lopez. In conjunction with 2006 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 9 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"Feeding Your Baby Naturally": Whole Foods Market. Local natural baby food advocate Jaminda Springer discusses how to fix "baby friendly" dishes that the whole family can enjoy. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. $15. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"The Future of Food": U-M Explore Evolution Theme Semester.** Screening of Deborah Koons Garcia's 2004 documentary about the unlabeled, patented, genetically engineered foods that have been quietly filling grocery shelves for the past decade, and the market and political forces that are shaping what we eat. Followed by comments by U-M Museum of Paleontology research scientist Catherine Badgley. *7 p.m., U-M Natural Sciences, 830 North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★**"Joy and New Hope: The Fruit of Conversion": St. Thomas Catholic Church "Lent Event."** Talk by Sister Ann Shields, an evangelist who hosts the *Food for the Journey* show on the Ann Arbor–based Internet Catholic radio station WDEO. *7 p.m., St. Thomas parish hall, 517 Elizabeth at State. Free. 930–4525.*

★**"There Once Was a Shtetl": U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies/U-M Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by **Piotr Piluk,** a Polish documentary photographer whose work is currently exhibited at the International Institute. *7–8 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351, 615–1287.*

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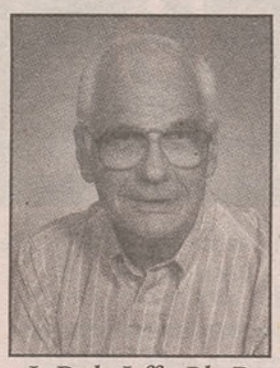

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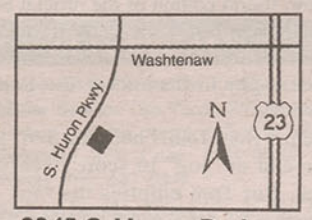

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29 WEDNESDAY *continued*

★Kathleen Allen: Nicola's Books. This young-adult novelist discusses ***Please to See the King: Stories from the Ballads of England,*** her collection of stories based on traditional English ballads. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 942–6013.*

★Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. See 15 Wednesday. Tonight: readings by **Greenhills School students.** Followed by an open mike for youth poets. 7–9:30 p.m.

★"Bomb the System": The Planet. Screening of Adam Bhala Lough's moody, atmospheric 2005 documentary about a vigilante graffiti artist's campaign to evade the NYPD and paint graffiti all over the city. *8 p.m., The Planet, 1112½ South University. Free. 994–4545.*

★Jon Crocker: Dreamland Theater. This one-man band from California plays enchanting, poetic folk-pop originals on mandolin, guitar, keyboard, harmonica, and drums. A *Daredevil* magazine critic says Crocker "combines country, folk, and partly pop and out comes a perfect mix which goes under the skin." *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

Mississippi Heat: The Ark. Vintage 50s-style Chicago blues by this internationally acclaimed band fronted by Inetta Visor, a powerhouse vocalist in the tradition of Etta James and Koko Taylor, and Pierre Lacocque, a blues harpist known for the subtlety of his solos and his hawklike tonal power. "Once in a blue moon a band like this comes along. Mississippi Heat's got the quality that gives you the gutbucket, gizzard-rip feel with each and every song. You just want to stop whatever the hell important thing you're doing and get down and boogie when these blues jump off those speakers," says *American Harmonica Newsletter* reviewer Rick Shidell. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Citizen Improv": Improv Inferno. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Full Frontal Comedy": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Hillel. "Israeli Film Night." Screening of an Israeli film TBA. Snacks & drinks provided. FREE. 769–0500. Hillel, 1429 Hill. 7 p.m. **MTF. "Ballets Russes"** (Dan Geller & Dayne Goldfine, 2005). See 27 Monday. Mich., times TBA.

30 THURSDAY

Master Class: Vox Early Music Ensemble. Tallis Scholars founder **Peter Phillips** (see listing below) directs this classy local early-music chorus in a master class. All invited to listen. *11:30 a.m. (follows 11 a.m. chapel service), Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes. $5 at the door only. 786–1576.*

★Book Lovers Club: Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. All invited to discuss Marilynne Robinson's widely acclaimed novel ***Gilead***, a fictitious memoir written by a 76-year-old Iowa preacher for his 7-year-old son, and ***In Cold Blood,*** Truman Capote's groundbreaking nonfiction novel about the brutal murder of a Kansas farm family. Refreshments. *1–3 p.m., Washtenaw County Library conference room B, County Service Center, 4135 Washtenaw at Hogback. Free. 971–4350.*

★"The Dilemma of European Integration": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe." Talk by University of California sociology professor Neil Fligstein. *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★"Making Darwin: Biography and Character": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program Distinguished Lecture. Talk by University College London history of biology professor Janet Browne, author of an acclaimed 2–volume biography of Darwin. *4–5:30 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 647–3766.*

★Orlan: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Talk by this French body artist whose numerous facial surgeries have altered her face into a graceful stylized mask. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–0397.*

★Lorna Goodison and Laura Kasischke: U-M English Department. Poetry reading by Goodison and fiction readings by Kasischke. Goodison is a U-M creative writing professor and award-winning poet from Jamaica. "The evocative power of Lorna Goodison's poetry derives its urgency and appeal from the heart-and-mind concerns she has for language, history, racial identity, and gender," says Andrew Salkey in *World Literature Today.* U-M Resi-

dential College creative writing instructor Kasischke is a nationally acclaimed local poet and novelist whose most recent book, ***Gardening in the Dark,*** is a collection of fast-moving poems that take unexpected turns into the flip side of consciousness, making visionary leaps from the familiar world to brilliant, surprising epiphanies *5 p.m., Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"Cooking with Chinese Herbs": People's Food Co-op.** Hands-on cooking demo, with taste samples, by local Chinese medicine practitioner and acupuncturist Gary Merel. *7–9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**"Equus": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** *March 30–April 1.* James Manganello directs U-M students in Peter Shaffer's portrait of a psychiatrist whose work with an alleged horse-mutilator in a mental hospital leads to unsettling, shocking revelations. *7 p.m., Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764–6800.*

"Yugma: Odissi, Bharatanatyam, Sculptural, Kinetic": Srishti Dances of India. *See Ann Arborites, p. 19.* Sreyashi Dey leads an ensemble drawn from her Indian dance troupes in Pittsburgh and in India in performances of 2 contrasting Indian classical dance styles, both rooted in ancient religious dance. The Odissi style emphasizes subtle, fluidly sculpted movements through S-shaped body positions, and Bharatanatyam is a more vigorously expressive style with visually percussive movement organized along straight lines or triangles. The dances are accompanied by prerecorded music. *7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $8) at the door only. 764–0352.*

★**"Botanical Gardens": U-M Museum Studies.** Matthaei Botanical Gardens curator David Michener interviews Montreal Botanical Garden curator Michel Labrecque. *7:30 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 936–6678.*

"The Maltese Heron": Thurston Community Players. *March 30 & 31 and April 1.* Phil Zaret directs Thurston Elementary School parents and friends in the school's 32nd annual original play. At an archaeological conference, Indiana Jones regales his audience with the evocative story of the vanished statue of the Maltese Heron. Unbeknownst to Jones, his listeners include a rogue band of pirates, some second-rate superheroes, and the Heron's original owner, all bent on recovering the prize. The metal heron used in the play is the Thurston school mascot that was inspired by the heron that's a longtime resident of a nearby pond. The cast includes Hector Cruz, Lisa Belanger, Laura Hannaford, Kami Meader, Amy Mees, Steve Geringer, and Rose Wendal. *7:30 p.m., Clague Middle School auditorium, 2616 Nixon. Tickets $8 (students, $5) at the door. 913–0657.*

"The Burial at Thebes": U-M Theater Department. *March 30 & 31 and April 1, 2, & 6–9.* U-M theater professor Malcolm Tulip directs U-M drama students in Seamus Heaney's new translation of *Antigone,* Sophocles' tragedy about a royal woman destroyed by the conflict between divinely sanctioned loyalty to the family and the demands of the state. "There are many translations of Sophocles' *Antigone* but few with the understated power and spare beauty of Irish Nobel laureate Heaney's version," says *Booklist.* "Written in a muscular but lively style, the translation, like Heaney's best poetry, finds music in the language of the streets and reveals the raw, primal power in the most carefully constructed rhetorical tropes." *7:30 p.m., Trueblood Theater, Frieze Bldg., 105 S. State. Tickets $16 & $22 (students, $8) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**"Ten Countries in Seven Weeks": Of Global Interest.** Local adventure tour company owner Heather O'Neal presents a multimedia slide show about her trip to Turkey. *8 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

★**Music Night: Dreamland Theater.** Double bill. Singer-songwriter **Drew Danburry** plays melodic, poetic indie folk songs, and the Elevators Escalators is a Canton band that plays satiny, slightly mournful alternative rock. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

★**Campus Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Benjamin Vickers and Sameer Patel conduct this ensemble of nonmusic majors in the Overture to Mozart's *Don Giovanni,* selections from Handel's *Water Music,* Faure's *Pelleas et Melisande Suite,* and 2 Berlioz works, the "March to the Scaffold" from *Symphonie Fantastique* and the "Hungarian March" from *The Damnation of Faust. 8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

Tallis Scholars: University Musical Society. Founded in 1978 by director Peter Phillips, this British a cappella choral ensemble has earned superstar status in the world of Renaissance music. Its exquisitely precise intonation and luxurious yet ethereal sound have awed fans worldwide and resulted in brisk sales of over 30 recordings. While the Tallis Scholars—which takes its name from the 16th-century "father of English cathedral music"—specializes in the music of English church composers, its repertoire includes a wide spectrum of European sacred music. Tonight's program includes sacred works by Praetorius, Hans Leo Hassler, Gregor Aichinger, Ludwig Senfl, Heinrich Schuetz, and J. S. Bach. *8 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 2250 E. Stadium. Tickets $30–$40 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Tom Russell: The Ark. Russell is a veteran Texas singer-songwriter whose folk-based songs, usually set in a noir version of the American West, explore and celebrate the spiritual struggles of ordinary people with an often revelatory acuity and warmth. He is best known for 2 song cycle CDs, *The Rose of San Joaquin* and *The Man from God Knows Where,* a widely acclaimed exploration of the experiences of his ancestors' move to America in the early 19th century that deftly incorporates Irish and Norwegian musical elements. His latest CD, *Hotwalker: Charles Bukowski and a Ballad for Gone America,* is a portrait of the outsider cultural voices of the 60s that blends original songs, narration, and the actual voices of everyone from circus midgets to Jack Kerouac and Charles Bukowski to Lenny Bruce and Dave Van Ronk. "*Hotwalker* is the best Sam Peckinpah movie since Peckinpah died. It's a ghostly jubilee, an audacious slab of Blue America," says acclaimed poet-novelist Luis Urrea. "It's funny, eerie, sad, pissed-off, at turns ugly and epiphanic: Desert Beat. I never heard another record like it." *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Along Those Lines": U-M Dance Department M.F.A. Thesis Concert. *March 30–April 1.* A concert of solo and group works choreographed by U-M M.F.A. dance candidates **Kristen Berger, He Jin Jang, Julie Leppelmeier, and Shauna Steele.** Berger's untitled group work explores segregation of men and women in the workplace, and her untitled solo is a study of finding what works within the confines of our human nature. Jang's *Pompeii* is a group work about the fear of tragic death inspired by an untitled 1984 painting by Zdzislaw Beksinski, and her untitled solo is inspired by the story of St. Veronica, the woman who wiped Jesus' face on the way to Calvary. Leppelmeier's *Trend* is a solo based on research about innate and learned movement development in children, and her untitled group work, set to a Julia Holter sound score, depicts 7 angelic beings dancing on 8- and 10-foot ladders. Steele's untitled group work focuses on the Juedisches Museum in Berlin to explore the relation between the human body and architecture, and her *Soul Elevator* is a solo exploring the masks people create and wear through life. *8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Studio Theater, 1310 North University Ct. Tickets $5 at the door only. 763–5461.*

"Either/Orchestra": Kerrytown Concert House. This Grammy-nominated, Massachusetts-based 10-piece ensemble has forged an eclectic original style that's both cutting-edge and steeped in jazz tradition. With a repertoire of both standards and originals, it combines the elastic agility of a small combo with the hard-swinging power and subtle coloring of a jazz orchestra, making mincemeat of expectations as they go. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $15, $20, & $30. Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Orny Adams: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 30–April 1.* Ann Arbor debut of this stand-up comic, a frequent guest on cable TV shows who costarred with Jerry Seinfeld in the documentary film *Comedian.* His fast-paced monologues feature his quick wit and skeptical, contrarian observational humor directed at a variety of topics. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Trio Caveat: Canterbury House. This New York City avant-jazz trio combines elusive grooves, evocative melodies, and airy, winding lines. Members are saxophonist Jonathan Moritz, bassist James Ilgenfritz, and drummer John McLellan. *9 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $5–$10 donation. 764–3162.*

FILMS

MTF. "Ballets Russes" (Dan Geller & Dayne Goldfine, 2005). See 27 Monday. Mich., times TBA.

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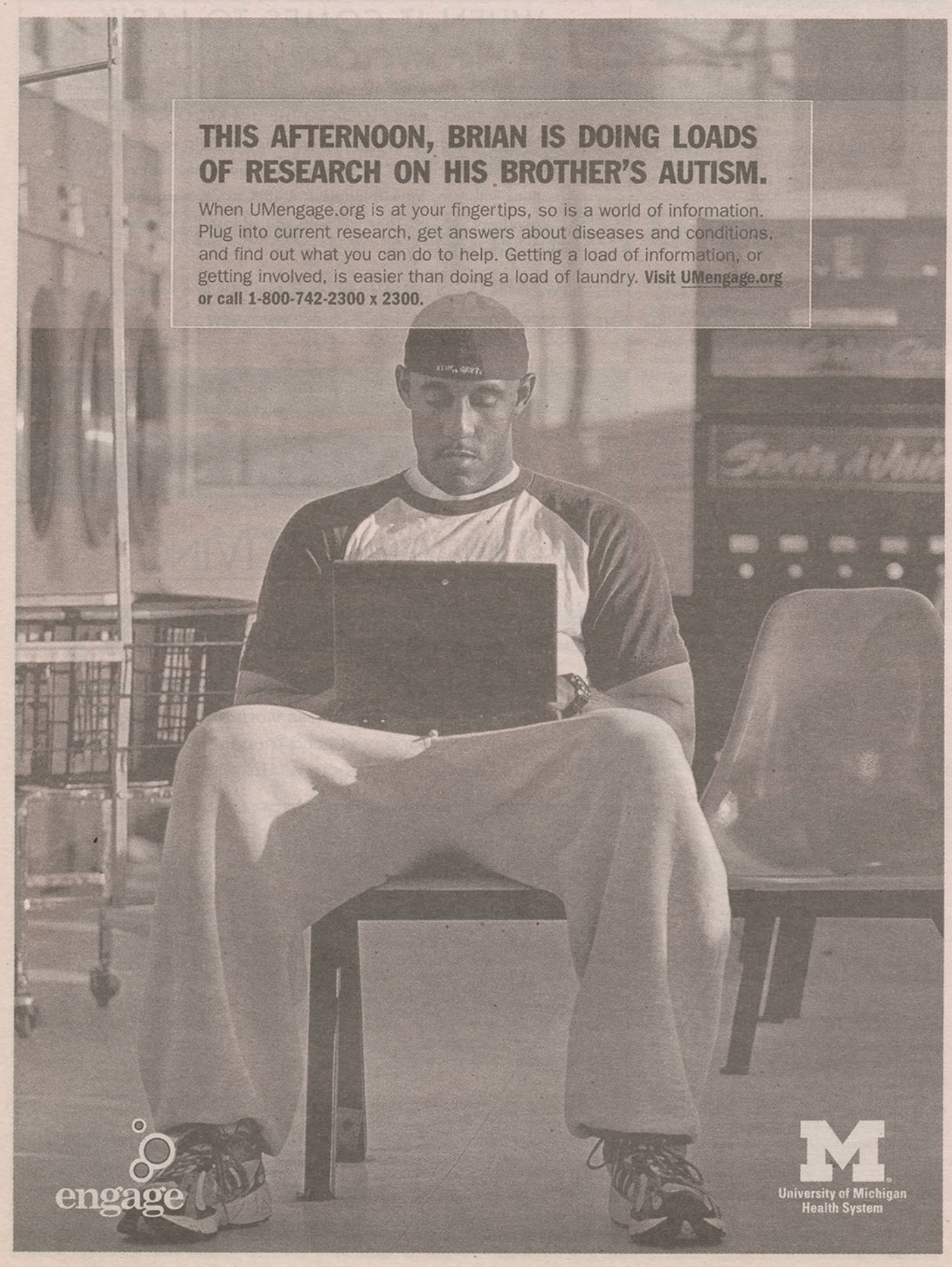
THIS AFTERNOON, BRIAN IS DOING LOADS OF RESEARCH ON HIS BROTHER'S AUTISM.
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31 FRIDAY

★**"Slavery and Freedom in the Atlantic World: Statutes, Science, and the Seas": U-M Atlantic Studies Initiative.** A series of panel discussions with scholars from around the country. Topics: **"Slavery and Law"** (10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.), **"Law and the Meaning of Freedom"** (2:30–5 p.m.), and **"Empires and Islands: Reenvisioning the Early Atlantic World"** (6:30 p.m.). Part of a 3-day colloquium that includes sessions at the University of Windsor on March 30 and April 1. *9:45 a.m.–5 p.m., 0520 Rackham, & 6:30–9 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 936–6480.*

★**"Safari Culture: Gorilla Expeditions in the African Highlands; or, Domesticating the Wild from Paul du Chaillu to Dian Fossey": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program.** Talk by University College London history of biology professor Janet Browne. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1644 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–3766.*

★**Lenten Recital Series: American Guild of Organists.** See 3 Friday. Today: EMU organ students. 12:15 p.m.

U-M Baseball vs. Oakland. *March 31 & April 2 (single games) and April 1 (doubleheader).* Big Ten opener. *3 p.m. (Mar. 31) & 1 p.m. (Apr. 1 & 2), Ray Fisher Stadium. $5 (youths age 12 & under, $3; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

★**Last Friday Ride: Ann Arbor Critical Mass.** Join members of this local group that promotes bikes for urban commuting for a leisurely round-trip downtown ride sprinkled with a few fervent pro-bike chants. *5:30 p.m., corner of North University & State. Free. 717–1536.*

"All in the Family": Catholic Social Services. An evening of family fun that includes performances by the Community High Jazz Band and by John Bernos and Betsy Haller, the winners of the Pioneer High School "Future Stars" contest. Also, bingo for such prizes as an Xbox 360, iPods, bikes, and more. Arts and crafts. Pizza, sundae bar, and other kid-friendly food. Proceeds benefit CSS programs. *6:30–9 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $125 per family. 971–9781.*

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** See 17 Friday. Today: prose by **Preeta Samarasan** and poetry by **Derek Michaels.** *7 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"Equus": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** See 30 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

"The Apple Tree": Bethlehem United Church of Christ Youth Players. *March 31–April 2.* B. J. Danner directs this ensemble of middle and high school students in Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick's collection of 3 one-act musicals about men, women, and temptation. "The Diary of Adam and Eve" is a quirky, touching spin on the Genesis story adapted from Mark Twain's "Extracts from Adam's Diary," and "The Lady or the Tiger" is a rock 'n' roll musical based on Frank Stockton's tale about the fickleness of love. "Passionella" is based on Jules Feiffer's offbeat Cinderella story about a chimney sweep whose dreams of being a glamorous movie star nearly sabotage her chance for true love. Musical director is Mike Rowan. *7:30 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. $7 (children 12 & under, $4) in advance and at the door. 665–6149.*

"The Maltese Heron": Thurston Community Players. See 30 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Minnesota-Duluth. *8 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

Ray Bonneville: The Ark. Blues and country-rock guitarist and harmonica player from Montreal known for his raspy, laid-back vocals. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

San Francisco Jazz Collective: University Musical Society. *See review, p. 92.* Jazz saxophone virtuoso **Joshua Redman** leads this acclaimed all-star octet, regarded as the West Coast's response to the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. Tonight's program, a tribute to Herbie Hancock, features Gil Goldstein's arrangements of Hancock works and new works composed by ensemble members. *All Music Guide* critic Thom Jurek praises the group for the "creativity, vision, and sensitivity" with which it has extended jazz tradition. The group's other members are venerable vibraphonist Bobby Hutcherson, trumpeter Nicholas Payton, pianist Renee Rosnes, saxophonist Miguel Zenon, drummer Eric Harland, bassist Matt Penman, and trombonist Andre Hayward. *8 p.m., Michigan The-*

galleries

Fêtes accomplies

Another side of Calder

Counteracting the popular image of Alexander Calder as a whimsical wizard of elegant megamobiles, a nineteen-minute film of a Cirque Calder performance inadvertently portrays the artist as a doddery paterfamilias of a charming yet rinky-dink miniature wire circus.

Planned as part of the Institute for the Humanities exhibit of a collaboration between Calder and French poet Jacques Prévert, the film portrays a 1966 performance, for a Parisian audience, of the Cirque Calder, an ensemble of wire, metal, and cloth figures and circus props created nearly four decades earlier. Manipulated by Calder's hand or by simple, ingenious gears, cranks, catapults, and strings, two wire and metal horse-carriages race, a lion tamer puts his head in a lion's mouth, and trapeze artists swing, leap, and catch their partners' wrists.

The beaming, bearlike Calder seems so charmed by his circus figures that he doesn't realize the molasses-slow performance of clever yet tiny feats grows tedious. Nor does he seem to hear a subtle note of ridicule that underlies some of the audience's laughter.

This fascinating film recalls Thomas Wolfe's blistering, barely fictionalized portrayal, in *You Can't Go Home Again,* of a 1929 Cirque Calder performance in a New York socialite's apartment, when the novelty of the Cirque was a quaint, fashionable diversion for the well heeled. "It became painful," reads one passage. "People craned their necks and looked embarrassed. But Mr. Logan [Calder] was not embarrassed. He giggled happily with each new failure and tried again. It went on and on."

In addition to the film, exhibition curator Elisabeth Paymal plans to show Calder's sixteen preliminary circus drawings, a spiral metal pin and earrings, and books of Aesop's fables and nursery rhymes bearing the artist's enchanting, airy illustrations. Two illustrations for a fable entitled "The Spider" show a swirly spiral spider resembling the pin and an amusing drawing of a man's profile with a spider on a long thread of spider-silk just barely above his head. A chunky red and yellow snake planned for the show is fashioned from kinked sheet metal. Hung with a small hidden weight, the snake's long, cursive tongue is a minimobile.

The exhibit's ostensible raison d'être consists of five planned cases showing different pages of *Fêtes*, Prévert's homage to Calder, which praises him and his work in lyrical, worshipful prose full of elegant metaphors. Calder, in turn, agreed to illustrate the book, and his blunt, bright abstractions (see above) offer pleasing shapes that, despite their simplicity, nevertheless radiate humor and joy.

The exhibit is on display on Thursdays and Fridays from noon to 8 p.m. (or by appointment) March 6 through April 7, in the Institute's Osterman Room in the basement of Rackham.

—Laura Bien

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 West Liberty. *Spring Forward* (March 1–27).

Ann Arbor District Library. *Main library* (343 South Fifth Avenue): *Ann Arbor Women Painters' Annual Spring Show* (March 2–April 14). 327–4510. ***Malletts Creek Branch*** (3090 East Eisenhower Parkway): *Rituals: A Collection of Prints by Emily Stokes* (March 17–April 29). 994–8004.

Dreamland Theater, 44 East Cross Street, Ypsilanti. *The m.i.n.i. Art Show* (March 31–April 15). 657–2337.

EMU Ford Gallery, 114 Ford Hall, Ypsilanti. *Graduate School Exhibition* (March 13–24). Reception 15 Wednesday, 4–6 p.m. 487–1268.

Gallery Project, 215 South Fourth Avenue. *Minimal Maximum* (March 29–May 7). Reception 31 Friday. 997–7012.

Kempf House, 315 South Division. *Teacups in the Parlor* (March 5–June 18). 994–4898.

Kreft Center for the Arts at Concordia University, 4090 Geddes. *Blue Chicago—Night Visions from a Boat: Paintings by Pala Townsend* (March 2–31). Reception 2 Thursday, 7–9 p.m. 995–7591.

Reehill Gallery, 1679 Broadway. *Photos by Jim Lounsbury* (March 4–24). Reception 11 Saturday, 7–9 p.m. 971–5359.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 North Huron, Ypsilanti. *Collages by Louise Flory, Woodcuts by Sacha Kalaj, and Glassworks by Annette Baron* (March dates TBA). 480–2787.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel, North Campus. *Eleventh Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners* (March 14–29). Reception 14 Tuesday, 5:30–8 p.m. 764–0397.

U-M Institute for the Humanities, 915 East Washington (Rackham Building basement). *Fêtes* (March 6–April 7). See review, above. Reception 9 Thursday, 4:30–6:30 p.m. 936–1935.

U-M International Institute, 1080 South University. *Traces of a Jewish Presence in Poland: Photographs by Piotr Piluk* (March 20–April 7). Reception 29 Wednesday, 7 p.m. 615–1287.

U-M Residential College/East Quad Art Gallery, 701 East University. *Photos by Sa Schloff* (March 17–April 21). 763–0176.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art), 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. *Fourth Annual A&D All-Students Exhibition* (March 31–April 30). Reception 31 Friday, 6–9 p.m. 763–4417.

Washington Street Gallery, 120 East Liberty. *Recess: Watercolors and Mixed-Media Works by Jennifer Thompson* (March 14–April 16). 761–2287.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2005–2006 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.

ater. Tickets $18–$40 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.

"The Idiots Karamazov": U-M Rude Mechanicals. *March 31–April 2.* Kate Hutchens directs U-M students in Christopher Durang and Albert Innaurato's literary musical comedy based on *The Brothers Karamazov.* As dotty translator Constance Garnett nostalgically reflects on her triumphs in translating *The Brothers Karamazov,* her memory falters. Recollections of Djuna Barnes, Anais Nin, and other literary figures drift into Garnett's memory of *Brothers,* depicted onstage by absurd clashes between characters connected to the works. After Anais Nin seduces the idealistic, repressed *Brothers* monk Alyosha, the characters end up in a nightclub, transformed into their modern-day equivalents, performing some of the silly parody songs with which the play is peppered. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $5 (students $3) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Ain't Misbehavin'": EMU Theater Department. *March 31 and April 1, 2, & 6–8.* EMU theater professor Wallace Bridges directs EMU drama students in Murray Horwitz and Richard Maltby's exuberant Tony-winning musical revue of songs by early jazz composer-pianist Fats Waller. A mixed cast of men and women sings, dances, and banters its way through such well-known tunes as "Yo' Feet's Too Big," "Mean to Me," and the title song in a show that captures the flavor of 1930s Harlem. *8 p.m., Quirk Theater, Ford St., EMU campus, Ypsilanti. (Take Huron River Dr. east to Lowell St. Take Lowell to Ford St. and turn right onto Ford. The theater is on the left, with parking on the right.) Tickets $10–$15 in advance and at the door. Group discounts available. 487–1221.*

"Along Those Lines": U-M Dance Department M.F.A. Thesis Concert. See 30 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Burial at Thebes": U-M Theater Department. See 30 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"A Doll's House": Performance Network Professional Season. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★Comedy Company: U-M U-Club. *March 31 & April 1.* Humorous skits and loopy stand-up comedy by rather silly U-M student comics. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M are not admitted to the Union after 9 p.m., but those who arrive before 9 p.m. may remain through the end of the evening. *8 p.m., U-Club, Michigan Union. $2. 764–4636.*

"The Reality Buffet": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 8 p.m.

Orny Adams: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 30 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Johnny Cash Tribute": The Blind Pig. Several top local country-, folk-, rockabilly-, and bluegrass-based bands and singer-songwriters perform the music of the late country icon. Performers: **Jamie-Sue Seal & the Radiotown Flyers, Dave Feeney, Dirt Road Logic, Dave Boutette, Jo Serrapere, The Gentlemen Callers, FUBAR, John Latini, The Hummingbirds, Paul's Big Radio, Uses for Wood, Powell Conley, The Martindales, Valicode, J. D. Lamb, The Horse Cave Trio, Corndaddy, Luke Sayers,** and **Jack Spack Jr.** *8:30 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.). The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. $10 at the door only. 996–8555.*

David "Fathead" Newman: Firefly Club. Jazz ensemble led by this legendary tenor saxophonist. Newman was a member of Ray Charles's band, and the jazz recording Charles made with that band—aptly titled *Ray Charles Presents David Newman*—is most distinguished for what one fan calls Newman's "fast, driving, harmonically surprising, melodic, precisely articulated solos." *9 & 11 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. $25 (students, $15) in advance and at the door. 665–9090.*

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. 10 p.m.

"The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 3 Friday. Midnight.

FILMS

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. "A Pure Formality" (Giuseppe Tornate, 1994). A famous novelist accused of murder is investigated by a police commissioner who is a big fan of his. The film has been described as "Kafka meets Columbo." Gerard Depardieu, Roman Polanski. French, subtitles. Followed by discussion. Popcorn. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (207 E. Washington), 7 p.m. **Michigan Theater Foundation. "Thank You for Smoking"** (2006). *March 31–into April.* Withering, edgy comedy about a showdown between an amoral tobacco lobbyist and a Birkenstock-wearing anti-tobacco Vermont senator. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"Ballets Russes"** (Dan Geller & Dayne Goldfine, 2005). See 27 Monday. Mich., times TBA.

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Sunday, March 26, 2006
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
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2939 Birch Hollow Drive
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Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County
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MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

by John Hinchey

These bookings come from information available at press time. Last-minute changes are always possible, so to be certain who's playing, it's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main **761–1451**

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Cover, no dancing. All shows begin at 8 p.m. (Sun., 7:30 p.m.) unless otherwise noted. **Mar. 1: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. The first 12 acts to sign up beginning at 7:30 p.m. get to perform. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). **Mar. 3 & 4: "19th Annual Storytelling Festival."** Adult concerts with three different storytellers on March 3 & 4 (8 p.m.) and a family concert on March 5 (1 p.m.). See Events. **Mar. 5: Janis Ian.** Veteran folk-pop singer-songwriter. See Events. **Mar. 6: Niamh Parsons.** Irish chanteuse. See Events. **Mar. 7: Ellis.** Texas-born, Minneapolis-based lesbian pop-folk singer-songwriter. See Events. **Mar. 8: Open Stage.** See above. **Mar. 9: Whit Hill & the Postcards.** Self-styled "beatnik alt-country" by this local band. See Events. **Mar. 10: Mady Kouyate & the Heat of Africa.** Traditional and contemporary West African music. See Events. **Mar. 11: Blanche.** Detroit postpunk country and psychobilly garage quintet. See Events. **Mar. 12: Dave Alvin.** Roots-rock singer-songwriter. See Events. **Mar. 13: RobinElla & the CC String Band.** Jazz-flavored bluegrass by this acclaimed young Knoxville, Tennessee, quintet. See Events. **Mar. 14: Solas.** Traditional Celtic music with a contemporary edge. See Events. **Mar. 15: Lee Roy Parnell.** Country-rock singer-songwriter. See Events. **Mar. 16: Chris Buhalis.** Popular local folk-country singer-songwriter. See Events. **Mar. 17: The Greencards.** Acclaimed Austin-based acoustic bluegrass trio. See Events. **Mar. 18: RFD Boys.** Popular local bluegrass band. See Events. **Mar. 19: John Hammond.** Veteran country blues revivalist. See Events. **Mar. 21: Billy Bragg.** Celebrated English folk-rocker. See Events. **Mar. 22: Danu.** Traditional Celtic ballads and dance tunes by this acclaimed young septet from Waterford, Ireland. See Events. **Mar. 23: Eddie from Ohio.** Folk-rock acoustic quartet from Arlington, Virginia. See Events. **Mar. 24 & 25: "Mr. B Boogie Celebration."** Two evenings of blues & boogie-woogie piano with Ann Arbor's **Mark "Mr. B" Braun** and guest pianists **Dave Burrell, Hilton Ruiz,** and **Bob Seeley.** See Events. 7:30 p.m. **Mar. 26: Peggy Seeger.** Veteran folk singer. See Events. **Mar. 27: Sarah Harmer.** Young singer-songwriter. See Events. **Mar. 28: Brian Joseph.** Up-and-coming young California singer-songwriter and fingerpicking guitarist. FREE. See Events. **Mar. 29: Mississippi Heat.** Vintage 50s-style Chicago blues band. See Events. **Mar. 30: Tom Russell.** Veteran Texas singer-songwriter. See Events. **Mar. 31: Ray Bonneville.** Canadian blues and country-folk singer-songwriters. See Events.

Banfield's

3140 Packard Rd. **971–3300.**

This east-side sports bar features live music or karaoke on Sat., 8 p.m.–midnight. Dancing, no cover. **Mar. 25: The Hummingbirds.** See Conor O'Neill's.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, occasional early shows, 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. **Mar. 1: "Your Hip-Hop."** With local hip-hop MC's **Majestik Legend** and **Noah Dub,** the Brighton hip-hop trio **Lost Elementz,** and Ypsilanti hip-hop MC **AKA. Mar. 2: Morgan Heritage.** Influential R&B-inflected Jamaican reggae quintet. See Events. **Mar. 3: War Between the States.** Indie band that plays guitar-based instrumental rock. Opening acts are the Boston-based indie rock quartet **Aberdeen City,** the local indie rock band **Great Fiction,** and an indie rock band led by Ypsilanti singer-songwriter **Matt Ford. Mar. 4: The High Strung.** New York–based pop-rock quartet, originally from Detroit, whose music has been described as "a poppy mix of early Pavement and 'Twist and Shout'–era Beatles." Opening acts are the Detroit country-rock band **Loretta Lucas & the Larkspurs,** the Detroit pop-rock quartet **The Doll Faces,** and **Canada,** a local indie pop-folk septet that features 2 cellists. **Mar. 5: "Video Trapped the Rapper Tour."** With New York City underground hip-hop MCs **Percee P, Tableek, Wordsworth, Doujah Raze,** and **Earatik Statik,** and the local hip-hop Collective **Athletic Mic League.** See Events. **Mar. 7: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands. **Mar. 8: Ted Leo & the Pharmacists.** *All ages admitted.* Veteran D.C.–based rock band. Opening acts are **The Duke Spirit** and **Les Aus.** See Events. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Mar. 9: Of Montreal.** *All ages admitted.* Veteran indie pop-rock band from Athens, Georgia. Opening act is **Fashion Flesh.** See Events. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Mar. 10: "The B-Boy Party."** With **The Element 1 Crew,** a U-M student breakdancing troupe that is accompanied by **DJ Jay Spliff. Mar. 11: Nomo.** Local 9-piece ensemble that plays a mix of Afrobeat with Sun Ra– and Coltrane-influenced jazz. Opening act is **His Name Is Alive,** an acclaimed dance-rock ensemble, led by Livonia native Warren Defever on guitar and keyboard, that blends bizarre lyrics with the airy rapt vocals of 2 female singers, naive melodies, and dreamily atmospheric instrumental effects. **Mar. 12: Anthony B.** Jamaican reggae singer. Opening act is **Soul Majestic.** See Events. **Mar. 14: Badfish.** Sublime tribute band. See Events. **Mar. 15: Genesee Ramblers.** Local country and blues band led by the versatile singer-songwriter Mike Boyd. **Mar. 16: Greenstreet.** Very popular local Dave Matthews–style funk-rock band. Opening acts are the all-female U-M student rock band **The Midnight Special,** the U-M student alternative rock band **Thursday by Six,** and the Madison, Wisconsin, alternative rock band **Good Luck Joes. Mar. 17: The Disregarded.** Self-styled "dirt-hop" quartet from Oakville whose music blends American roots music with urban rap, gospel-tinged choruses, and rock 'n' roll energy. Opening act is **The Dirty Americans,** a Detroit band whose heavy, guitar-driven rock 'n' roll has provoked comparisons to Helmet and the Rollins Band. **Mar. 18: The Bang!** Local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Mar. 21: "Showcase Night."** See above. **Mar. 22:** TBA. **Mar. 23: Patrick Thomas Theory.** Folk-rock band led by local singer-songwriter Thomas. **Mar. 24: Magnolia Electric Co.** *All ages admitted.* Working-class rock 'n' roll by this Chicago quartet led by Jason Molina. See Events. 7–10 p.m. **Mar. 24: Zion 1.** Underground hip-hop duo from Oakland, California. See Events. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. **Mar. 25: The Silver Jews.** Veteran English indie rock band. See Events. **Mar. 28: "Showcase Night."** See above. **Mar. 29: Security.** Duo of local hip-hop MCs **One Be Lo** and **Majestik Legend.** Opening act is **Eternia,** a female hip-hop MC from Detroit. **Mar. 30:** TBA. **Mar. 31: "Johnny Cash Tribute."** With nearly a score of local bands and singer-songwriters. See Events. 8 p.m.–2 a.m.

Cafe Felix

204 S. Main **662–8650**

This downtown cafe features live music Fri., 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: Deep Blue.** Jazz trio led by drummer John Churchville.

Cavern Club

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This downtown club, in the Celebration Cellars banquet space in the basement under the Millennium Club, features live music on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Millennium Club and Gotham City) Sat. only, dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Mar. 3** (6–9 p.m.)**: Jim Tate Band.** Versatile honky-tonk band led by singer-guitarist Tate, a longtime local favorite. The band's huge repertoire includes blues, country, rockabilly, rock 'n' roll, and R&B. The line-up of local veterans includes bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, keyboardist Jimmy King, and guitarist Danny McIntire. No cover. **Mar. 3: Joce'lyn B & the Detroit Street Players.** Detroit blues band led by Joce'lyn B, a popular vocalist who's said to blend the voice of "Bessie Smith, the attitude of Mae West, and the mouth of Moms Mabley." **Mar. 4: Blend.** Novi jam-rock band that plays originals and covers. **Mar. 10** (6–9 p.m.)**: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by Kingpins bassist Randy Tessier and featuring former Map of the World vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis, Steve Earle, and U2. The band recently released its debut CD, *Suddenly*. **Mar. 10: Horse Cave Trio.** See Northfield Roadhouse. **Mar. 11: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Wayne. **Mar. 17** (6–9 p.m.)**: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local country band led by singer-guitarist Smith. **Mar. 17: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style is something of a cross between Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. **Mar. 18: Hot Sauce.** Detroit dance band. **Mar. 24** (6–9 p.m.)**: Fenton Fireballs.** 60s rock by this new local band led by Drivin' Sideways frontman Pontiac Pete Ferguson. **Mar. 25: Killer Flamingos.** See above. **Mar. 31** (6–9 p.m.)**: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by vocalist Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everything from early Chuck Berry to Sam & Dave to the Meters. The band's guiding presence seems to be Elvis—including both large chunks of his repertoire and his attitude that any music he did suited him just because he did it. The band also includes guitarist George Bedard, pedal-steel guitarist Mark O'Boyle, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. **Mar. 31: Thornetta Davis.** Soulful, rocking Detroit-style R&B by a band led by Davis, a powerful, Etta James–style vocalist.

Club Above

215 N. Main **663–7758**

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features a variety of live and recorded music Thurs.–Sun., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Also, comedy on Tues. (see Events), and karaoke on Wed., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older admitted unless otherwise noted. **Every Fri.: Latino Night.** DJ Xcess plays salsa, merengue, reggae, and other Latin dance records. Also, salsa lessons, 9–10 p.m. **Every Sun.: Mexican Night.** With DJ Miguel or a live Mexican band. **Mar. 2: "Acoustic Night."** Hosted by local singer-songwriters and acoustic guitarist **Zach Rose,** a U-M architecture grad student. With **Rachele Eve,** a pop-rock singer-songwriter from Plymouth, and **Jesse Passage,** an acoustic rock singer-songwriter from Dearborn. **Mar. 4: Deep**

pop-folk

The Ragbirds

Stunning and intricate

CIBELE VIEIRA

Last summer, weeks before the release of the group's debut CD, *Yes Nearby,* I downloaded and fell in love with a catchy tune called "Tipi Baya" done by the Ypsilanti band the Ragbirds. Quirky and melodic, the track sounded like an outtake from some lost Paul Simon world-music experiment fronted by a clear, sweet voice that slipped and slid all over the charts in a perfectly controlled fashion. The poetry of the lyric was a little silly and sounded like a nursery rhyme, but the catchy chorus and the layers of mandolins, guitars, and percussion jumped from the speakers and made it impossible to get the song out of my brain.

When the CD finally came out, I discovered that "Tipi Baya" was no fluke. The twelve-song collection is like a well-worn suitcase covered with travel stickers of world-music styles: mournful piano ballads, African drums, Middle Eastern textures, a banjo tossed into the mix here and there, layers of strings and violins. But I did find out that the guiding vision, the stunning voice, and the intricate songs all came from front woman Erin Zindle.

More than just another pop-folk singer with a nice voice, Zindle somewhat recalls Natalie Merchant, but with a bit more power and a greater willingness to take risks. She'll grab notes and push the music over the line by bending the pitch or soaring off the edge with surprising little twists, her voice moving like a violin. If you listen closely, it's apparent Zindle is doing something rare and unique as a singer.

Zindle's voice alone would make the Ragbirds a band worth checking out. But lots more is going on. For starters, she's a pretty hot songwriter as well, although the insistent spirituality of her lyrics can get a bit annoying. "Adoration" is a long, Hindu-sounding Jewish spiritual chant that brings to mind some India-fueled hippie trip that doesn't stand up to repeated listening. A couple of her experiments don't quite hit on all cylinders, but when they work, look out. On "Holy Kiss," a song about God or a lost love (I'm not sure which) with just Zindle's voice and a grand piano, or on "Believe It," a song about faith and hope with a hypnotic beat and a wonderful accordion and snappy chorus, the Ragbirds just lure you into a distinctive and appealing musical world.

The live Ragbirds—with Randall Moore and Tim Dzieken on percussion, Adam Labeaux on guitar and vocals, Jeff Stinson on bass and vocals, and vocalist Zindle on an assortment of instruments, including violin and banjo—are a bit more of a jam band, open to soloing and stretching out beyond pop song structures off the CD. Their live shows work both as a showcase for the songs and as a soundtrack to inspire the dancers in the audience.

The Ragbirds headline the St. Patrick's Day show at TC's Speakeasy on Friday, March 17.

—Alan Goldsmith

CIBELE VIEIRA

Space Six. Popular local Grateful Dead cover band. **Mar. 9:** TBA. **Mar. 11: Bellikos.** Local modern rock band. **Mar. 16: Black Box. Mar. 18 & 23:** TBA. **Mar. 25: Funkilium.** Detroit jazz-funk fusion band.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665–2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. (7:30–10 p.m.) and Tues.–Thurs. and occasional other nights (9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m.). **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Every Tues.: Jerry Sprague Band.** Roots-rock band led by veteran local singer-guitarist Sprague. **Mar. 1: The Hummingbirds.** Twang-filled acoustic country and American roots music by the local duo of singer-guitarists S. G. Wood and Rachel Hercula that won a Detroit Music Award as Best Country Band. **Mar. 2: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Mar. 8: Shaun Gereth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Mar. 9: Lucas Paul & Mario Ghossoub.** Local duo led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul. **Mar. 15: Bruno's Brawlers.** Traditional Irish songs of drinking and rebellion, accompanied on a wide array of instruments, by this Detroit-area duo. **Mar. 16: The Lash.** Celtic folk-rock originals by this very popular band from Lansing that also plays traditional Irish music, Pogues covers, and drinking songs. **Mar. 22: Mossy Moran.** See above. **Mar. 23: Grievous Angel.** Detroit-area country-rock band, led by local singer-guitarist David Mosher, that covers everyone from Hank Williams to the Grateful Dead and Metallica. **Mar. 29: George Martha Band.** Detroit trio that plays traditional Celtic music with a Middle Eastern accent. **Mar. 20: The Lash.** See above.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main **665–9468**

This tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30–10:30 p.m. **Mar. 3: Annie Capps.** Local singer-songwriter and electric guitarist who writes jazz-tinged folk-rock songs with a strong personal flavor. She has released 3 CDs, including the recent *Not So Sure*. She is accompanied by her husband, guitarist Rod Capps, and singer-percussionist Christine Schinker. **Mar. 4: Djilia Pharlengo.** Flamenco guitarist who fuses traditional Gypsy music with Middle Eastern and West European Renaissance music. **Mar. 10: Lisa Pappas.** Michigan singer-songwriter who sings twangy pop-folk and country originals. **Mar. 11: Annie Palmer.** Folk-style indie singer-songwriter from Ypsilanti. Opening act is **Actual Birds & the High Spirits,** a local psychedelic-folk band led by avant-noise singer-songwriter Dustin Krcatovich. **Mar. 17: Ken & Billy King.** Homespun rock 'n' roll covers and originals by Frog Holler Farm owner Ken King, a versatile country-folk musician, and his son, guitarist Billy King. **Mar. 18: Wei.** Alt-chamber originals by this local trio that includes bluegrass guitarist Matt Matthews, jazz mandolinist Paul Ossy, and Xiao Dong Wei, who plays the *ehru*, a 2-stringed Chinese violin, and *guzheng*, a Chinese zither. **Mar. 24: Fourth Wish.** Ballads and blues standards and oddities by this local jazz quartet. Members are winds player Jon Margerum-Leys, keyboardist Tyler Driskill, bassist Rich Rickman, and percussionist Kaamran Hafeez. **Mar. 25: Joe Summers Gypsy Jazz Trio.** This local trio led by guitar virtuoso Summers plays the music of Django Reinhardt, Charlie Christian, and Lenny Breau. With guitarist Chris Moyer and bassist Dave Sharp.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. **827–2737**

The intimate bar area of this restaurant in Scio Township features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 26: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-30s swing and 40s R&B.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti **483–6374**

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon., Wed., Thurs., and occasional other weeknights, 9 p.m.–1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional Sun., 8 p.m.–midnight. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "House Night."** With DJ **Brian Roy. Every Wed.: Open Mike Jam.** All musicians invited. **Mar. 3: Heroes Love Revenge.** Livingston County rock band. Opening acts are the Kalamazoo pop-emo trio **Mulligan,** the pop-emo band **Tommy Gunn,** and the old-school hardcore band **Grow Up! Mar. 4: Alienaire.** Local goth band whose music incorporates ambient, tribal, industrial, and electro styles. Opening acts are the Grand Rapids male-female punk duo **Vigilante Sidekicks,** the Toledo postpunk rock trio **Glowing Brains,** and **The Round,** a Hell, Michigan, band that plays angular post-hardcore. **Mar. 9: "Battle of the Bands."** Hosted by Taproot vocalist Stephen Richards. **Mar. 10: Humane Society of Huron Valley Benefit.** With bands TBA. **Mar. 11: Mega-Weedge.** Ween cover band led by Muggs frontman Tony Muggs. Opening acts are **Whitey Morgan & the Waycross, Georgia, Farm Boys, a** Detroit retro outlaw honky-tonk band, and **Dirt Road Logic,** a 70s-style rock 'n' roll band fronted by singer-guitarist Eric Kelly and featuring 3 former members of American Cosmos. **Mar. 17: The Satin Peaches.** Commerce, Michigan, rock 'n' roll quartet. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti rock band **Without Misty,** the local indie pop-rock trio **The Moodieveto,** and **Brandon Wiard & His Army,** a local folk-flavored country-pop band led by singer-songwriter Wiard. **Mar. 18: Bigfoot & the Fully Automatics.** Retro country band. Opening acts are **Boots & Bracelets,** a Champaign, Illinois, punk-rock trio led by vocalist Michele Razor, and **Potato Babies,** a Lansing art-noise band. **Mar. 24: Johnny No-Stars.** Local psychedelic rock band. Opening acts are the Bowling Green, Ohio, psychedelic-metal trio **Gherry@Trix,** the all-female rock band **Amazon Blonde,** and the Detroit prog-rock quintet **Tri-Nebulous. Mar. 25: Rootstand.** Local band whose music blends bluegrass, blues, reggae, and Celtic folk idioms and instrumentation. Opening acts are the jam band **Honeycut,** the Detroit blues-rock quartet **The Universal Temple of Divine Power,** the Toledo hard-rock band **Highbinder,** and the retro punk band **Circus Boy. Mar. 28: Christine.** Nashville punk-metal quartet. Opening acts are **Whitey Morgan & the Waycross, Georgia, Farm Boys** (see above) and **The Hotness,** a Detroit rock quartet. **Mar. 30: Danny Kline.** Acoustic performance by this singer-songwriter and guitarist who is the leader of the classy local country quartet Delta 88. Opening acts are **Orpheum Bell,** the local country-folk swing sextet, and **Matt Jones,** a local singer-songwriter known for his thoughtfully wistful songs and engaging, sweet-voiced singing. **Mar. 31: The Orphans.** Detroit postpunk rock 'n' roll band that includes members of the Sillies, Flirt, Incredible Mohawk Bros., and Red September.

Enzo's Sports Bar

3965 S. State **665–1600**

This south-side sports bar features DJs on Wed., 6–10 p.m., and live music on Thurs., 9 p.m.–midnight, and Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Blues Jam Session.** All musicians invited. **Every Thurs.: Lori Withrow.** Pop covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Mar. 3: The Blues Rollers.** Local blues band. **Mar. 4: Wixom Slim & the Wyze Gyze.** Ann Arbor–area band that plays a variety of swing and jump blues styles. **Mar. 10: Witch Doctors.** This local blues and R&B band led by singer-guitarist Thayrone, best known as the host of the nationally syndicated *Bone Conduction Music Show*, plays what Thayrone calls "way-strong mojo, ritualistic barroom blues healing." **Mar. 11: Nick Strange Band.** Popular local rock, blues, & reggae dance band. **Mar. 17: The Bluescasters.** Local blues band. **Mar. 18: The Terraplanes.** See Goodnite Gracie. **Mar. 24, 25, & 31:** TBA.

Espresso Royale Caffe

214 S. Main **668–1838**

The downtown location of this popular coffeehouse features live music on Sat., 9–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Mar. 4: Nicholas Koby.** Folk-rock singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist. **Mar. 11: Markita Moore.** Soulful acoustic folk and rock by this singer-guitarist. **Mar. 18: Jerry Peterson.** Rootsy, melodic Americana by this singer-songwriter from northern Wisconsin. **Mar. 25: North.** Local semiacoustic folk-rock trio that has released a CD, *Revolutions*. Cover.

The Firefly Club

207 S. Ashley **665–9090**

Jazz and blues club that was recently named Best Metro Detroit Jazz Club by the *Detroit Free Press*. Live jazz Mon.–Thurs., 8 p.m.–midnight; Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–1 a.m.; & Sun., 8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. Also, happy-hour music Thurs., Fri., & Sun., 5–8 p.m. Sun. jazz brunch, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Every Fri.** (5:30–8 p.m.)**: Easy Street Swingtet.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klinger. **Every Sun.** (5–8 p.m.)**: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 20s and early 30s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. The rest of the lineup includes 3 saxophonists/clarinetists, 2 trumpeters, a trombonist, a guitarist/banjo player, and a drummer. **Every Sun.: "Elevation."** Funk and hip-hop by DJ Graffiti and other DJs TBA. Also, an open mike session. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band, formerly known as the Bird of Paradise Orchestra, led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Susan Chastain. **Every Wed.: Paul Keller Ensemble.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller that features 3 horns. **Every Thurs.** (5–8 p.m.)**:** Jazz ensemble TBA. **Every Thurs.: Los Gatos.** Mambos and cha-chas by this local Latin jazz band that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 50s mambo craze. Led by drummer Pete Siers, the group also includes vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and percussionist Jonathan Ovalle. Preceded by beginning (6:15 p.m.) and intermediate (7 p.m.) Latin dance lessons ($5 includes cover for the band). **Mar. 3:** TBA. **Mar. 4: Liz Mandville Greeson.** Chicago blues singer. See Events. **Mar. 4:** TBA. **Mar. 7: Jazz Jam Session.** All musicians invited. **Mar. 10: Stephanie Nakasian Quartet.** Jazz ensemble led by veteran vocalist Nakasian. See Events. **Mar. 11: Grazyna Auguscik.** Jazz ensemble led by this Polish vocalist. See Events. **Mar. 14: Susan Chastain Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Chastain. **Mar. 17: Frank Morgan.** Veteran bebop saxophonist. See Events. 9 & 11 p.m. **Mar. 18: "Girls of the Great American Songbook."** Vocalists **Susan Chastain, Kate Brennan,** and **Judy Cochill** perform cabaret-style renditions of popular standards written by or associated with women. **Mar. 21: "Firefly Student Film Series." Mar. 24: "Women's History Month Celebration."** Variety show featuring local women comics, poets, dancers, and musicians. See Events. **Mar. 25: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** See Cavern Club. Tonight's show is being recorded for a live CD. **Mar. 28: Tad Weed Freedom Ensemble.** Progressive to mainstream jazz by an all-star ensemble led by this highly regarded pianist, a Jackson, Michigan, native. With saxophonist Andrew Bishop, Detroit bassist Tim Flood, and Los Gatos drummer Pete Siers. **Mar. 31: David "Fathead" Newman.** Legendary jazz saxophonist. See Events. 9 & 11 p.m.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron **623–2070**

Martini and cigar bar connected to Live at PJ's restaurant. Live jazz Wed.–Sat., 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. **Every Tues.: "Deep-Chilled House & Techno."** With DJ Aarnio. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Mar. 3: Nick Strange Band.** See Enzo's. **Mar. 4: Dave Sharp Quartet.** Straight-ahead jazz by this local quartet led by bassist Sharp. **Mar. 10: Busstop.** Smart, playful rock 'n' roll with a funky R&B edge by this local band fronted by Julia Ingalls whose repertoire ranges from vintage Stevie Wonder and Steely Dan to Sheryl Crow, along with some originals. **Mar. 11: Mister Jankets. Mar. 17: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. The band has a CD, *Well Tuned*. With guitarist Dave Fero, blues harpist and keyboardist Phil Ryski, saxophonist Willie Rankin, bassist Wendy Hayes, and drummer Lenny Gilpatrick. **Mar. 18: Motor City Beat Trio. Mar. 24: Chris Kurzawa Quartet.** Local quintet, formerly known as Sparklemotion, that plays jazz, soul, and avant-funk covers and originals. **Mar. 25: Tumbao.** Cuban jazz quintet led by local saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. With pianist Sven Anderson, bassist John Barron, and Javier Barrios on timbales. The band has released a CD, *Montuno Salad*. **Mar. 31: Ann Marie & Friends.** Local jazz & blues ensemble led by Primary Purpose vocalist Ann Marie Hicks.

Gotham City

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the Millennium Club, features DJs on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern and Millennium clubs), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Every Fri. & Sat.: House Night.** With DJ J Smooth.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. **769–9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features DJs on Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Sat.: "Salsa Night."** High-energy Latin dance music with DJ Ronnie and DJ Sabor.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. **665–3636**

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs. 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. & Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, solo piano by **Tim Knapp** (Tues.–Thurs., Sat., & Sun.) and **Adam Riccinto** (Fri.), 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Monday Groove."** With DJ Michial White. 7 p.m.–midnight. **Mar. 1 & 2: Herbie Russ.** Solo saxophonist. **Mar. 3 & 4: Sun Messengers.** Popular, versatile 10-piece ensemble from Detroit that plays everything from Latin and African dance music to blues and rock. **Mar. 7–9: No Romance.** Hard-rocking college pop cover band from East Lansing featuring former members of Soulstice. **Mar. 10 & 11: Scoot Magoo.** Detroit dance band. **Mar. 14–16: Barbara Love Trio.** Pop dance trio led by Love, a vocalist with a sultry style in the manner of Lena Horne. **Mar. 17 & 18: Joy Ride.** Detroit dance band. **Mar. 21–25: Soulstice.** Hard-driving dance band from East Lansing. **Mar. 28–30: Al Hill & the Love Butlers.** See Live at PJ's. **Mar. 31: Bugs Beddow Band.** Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow.

The Halfass

Church St. entrance to East Quad **764–8558**

Informal student-dominated cafe, formerly known as the Halfway Inn. Occasional live music, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 10: Saturday Looks Good to Me.** Eclectic local indie pop-rock band led by versatile local singer-songwriter Fred Thomas. Opening acts are **A Thousand Times Yes,** a local indie pop-rock band, and **The Living Flames,** a Detroit indie rock band. **Mar. 25: Dykehouse.** Local singer-songwriter who accompanies his 80s-style dream pop on guitar and prerecorded techno rhythms. Opening act is **Starling Electric,** a local retro-psychedelic pop-jam band.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. **623–1443**

This brand-new jazz lounge features live music, Wed.–Sat. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Wed.: "Retro 80s."** With DJ Scotty Styles. **Every Thurs.: "Audio-Forward Thinking Dance Music."** With DJ Scotty Styles. **Mar. 3 & 4: Ultraviolet.** Detroit band that plays 80s & 90s rock hits. **Mar. 10: Blackman & Arnold.** Gypsy jazz by a quartet led by guitarists Sean Blackman and John Arnold. **Mar. 11: Malik Alston & Painted Pictures.** Detroit jazz-funk dance band. **Mar. 17: "Progressive Dance."** With DJ Scotty Styles. **Mar. 18: Hot Sauce.** See Cavern Club. **Mar. 24: Good Gravy.** R&B band from Bloomfield Hills. **Mar. 25: Bugs Beddow Band.** See Habitat. **Mar. 31: Al Hill & the Love Butlers.** Soulful swing, New Orleans–style funk, and boogie-woogie blues by this veteran local band led by Hill's wailing vocals and pumping piano.

Millennium Club

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the Gotham City club, features DJs Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern Club and Gotham City), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Techno Nite.** With DJ Mad Maxx.

MJ's Wooden Nickel

901 W. Huron River Dr., Ypsilanti **544–4644**

This EMU campus-area bar and restaurant features live music Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 3: Johnny No-Stars.** See Elbow Room. Opening act is **Median,** a local alternative-rock band. **Mar. 4: Ez Cheez.** Alternative-rock band. **Mar. 10: 45 Cents.** Local hardcore band. Opening act is the Ypsilanti punk trio **The Disparity Clause. Mar. 11: "Hard-Rock Metal Night."** With **Misconceived, Wound, Void,** and **Southgate. Mar. 17: "St. Patrick's Day."** With DJs TBA. **Mar. 18:** TBA. **Mar. 24: Tenacity & S.A.** Local hip-hop duo. **Mar. 25: "Lakehouse Records Showcase."** Headliner is **The Skyline Obscura,** a Detroit-area posthardcore indie rock band. Opening acts are the area punk band **The Orphan** and the Hartland alternative rock quartet **Rain is Wet. Mar. 31: Spira.** Local emo-flavored alternative rock band. Opening act TBA.

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The Necto

516 E. Liberty 994–5436

This popular local dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (Thurs.–Sat. after 10 p.m. only), dancing. **Every Mon.: "Factory."** DJ Jinx spins industrial, goth, and synth pop records. **Every Thurs.: "College Night."** DJ Binzo spins Top 40 and hip-hop records. **Every Fri.: "Gay Night."** With DJ Timmy D spinning high-energy dance tunes in the main room and, in the downstairs Red Room, DJ Mark playing retro music videos and DJ John G spinning Top 40 records. **Every Sat.: "Frequency."** In the main room DJ Binzo plays Top 40 hip-hop and dance music, and in the red room a variety of Top 40 music videos.

Northfield Roadhouse

50 E. North Territorial at Whitmore Lake Rd. 327–3693

This tavern features a DJ Thurs., 8 p.m.–midnight, & live music Wed., 8–11 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., 8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m.; & Sun., 5:30–9:30 p.m. Dancing, cover Thurs.–Sat. only. **Every Sun.: Chef Chris & the Nairobi Trio.** Blues band led by vocalist and blues harpist Chef Chris Sirvinskis. **Every Wed.: Blues Jam.** All blues musicians invited. **Every Thurs.: "The Rockin' Roadhouse."** WCBN DJ Del Villarreal plays honky-tonk, blues, old-school rock 'n' roll, and rockabilly records. Free dance lessons by Mike McKenzie. **Mar. 3: Twistin' Tarantulas.** Very popular Detroit rockabilly band. **Mar. 4: The Alligators.** R&B and blues band from Detroit. **Mar. 10: Motor City Sheiks.** Jump blues originals by this Detroit quartet led by blues harpist and vocalist Mark Robinson and former Detroit Blues Band guitarist Emmanuel Garza. **Mar. 14: "Cabaret Show."** Popular standards and pop favorites by an ensemble led by Lori Lentini-Wilbur. **Mar. 17: Motor City Josh Ford.** Blues band led by this blues guitar virtuoso. **Mar. 18: The BlueRays.** Local blues band led by guitarist Dave Kaftan and featuring vocalist Angel Tristin. **Mar. 21: "Cabaret Show."** See above. **Mar. 24: Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones.** Traditional postwar blues, jump blues, and barroom swing by this acclaimed Detroit quartet led by singer-guitarist Deming. **Mar. 25: Horse Cave Trio.** Blues-fueled rockabilly by this local trio led by veteran singer-bassist Ron Devore. **Mar. 30: Twistin' Tarantulas.** See above. **Mar. 31: Shirley Franklin & Delta Drive.** Detroit-area Chicago-style blues quintet led by vocalist Franklin.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662–9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. and occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Mar. 5: Mike Smith.** This veteran local country singer-guitarist is accompanied by two members of his Cadillac Cowboys, guitarist Kelly Schmidt and bassist Gary Munce. **Mar. 12: The Royal Garden Trio.** Early jazz standards and Hot Club–style gypsy jazz by this local trio led by guitarist Brian Delaney. With cellist Michael Karoub and clarinetist and tenor guitarist Tom Bogardus. **Mar. 19: Dave Boutette.** Local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. He has released 2 CDs, including *Confetti*. **Mar. 26: Dabenport.** Local lo-fi country-tinged pop band quintet led by singer-songwriter Misty Lynn.

Oz

210 S. Fifth Ave. 222–4770

New nightclub located in the former Ann Arbor Theater. DJs or live music Tues. & Wed., 8 p.m.–2 a.m.; Thurs.–Sat., 8 p.m.–4 a.m.; & occasional Sun., 6 p.m.–midnight. Cover after 11 p.m., dancing. **Every Wed.: Gay Night.** With DJs TBA. **Every Thurs.: Top 40 Night.** With DJ Fares. **Every Fri.: International Night.** Arabic, Indian, and hip-hop music with DJ Fares. Also, a belly dancing show at midnight. **Every Sat.: Hip-Hop and Old Skool.** With DJ Fares.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662–8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music Tues. & occasional other nights, 7:30–9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover, no dancing. **Mar. 7: "Songwriters Open Stage."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Mar. 14: "Anything Goes Open Stage."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Mar. 21: "Acoustic Open Stage."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by Dave Guimond. **Mar. 28: "Songwriters Circle."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Mickey Richard.

Rick's American Cafe

611 Church 996–2747

This campus-area club features DJs Mon. & Wed.–Sat., 10 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Large dance floor. Dancing, cover. **Every Mon. & Thurs.: "Jammin' DJs."** DJs TBA play dance music. **Every Wed.: "High Energy Dance Party."** With DJ John King. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Supermack.** Techno music with DJs from Supermack Productions.

Rush Street

314 S. Main 913–0330

The bar in this new downtown restaurant features live music Wed. & Thurs. and occasional other nights, 10 p.m.–1 a.m. **Every Wed.: "Dance Party."** With DJ Jacob Alexander. **Every Thurs.: Jason Conley & Rob Young.** Contemporary indie rock originals and covers by this local duo of guitarist Conley and electric violinist Young.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482–5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern is resuming its music programming on a very limited scale, with Monday open mikes, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: Open Mike.** Hosted by the Martindales singer-guitarist Brian Brickley.

Tap Room Annex

205 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 487–5544

This tavern next door to the Tap Room features live music Fridays, 9–11 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Mar. 3:** No music. **Mar. 10, 17, 24, & 31: John Latini & Friends.** Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter, who is joined by several of his musician friends.

TC's Speakeasy

207 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 483–4470

This downtown Ypsilanti tavern features a jam session on Mon., karaoke on Tues., DJs on Wed., and dance bands on Thurs.–Sat. (9:30 p.m.–2 a.m.). Dancing, no cover unless otherwise noted. **Every Sun.: Local Music Night.** Bands TBA. **Every Mon.: Open Mike.** All musicians invited. Hosted by the local pop-folk jam band City Goat. **Mar. 3: Jamison.** Detroit-area R&B and funk-rock quintet. **Mar. 4: Joint Chiefs.** Popular Boston roots-reggae band whose members include Ann Arbor native Josh Meisler. With DJ **Papa Joshua** and other musical guests. **Mar. 10: Loud Love.** Local alternative-rock band. Opening act is the **Jacktown Hustlers,** a versatile 8-piece groove-oriented big band from Jackson that plays everything from swing and R&B to funk and hip-hop. **Mar. 11: Paul's Big Radio.** Rootsy country-pop band led by local singer-songwriter Paul Lippens. **Mar. 17: The Ragbirds.** *See review, p. 108.* Inventive local country-rock band, fronted by singer-songwriter Erin Zindle, whose music mixes in elements of world music, groove rock, and edgy pop, using a diverse mix of instruments, including violin, mandolin, banjo, accordion, acoustic guitar, and percussion elements from around the world, as well as the old-fashioned drumkit. The band recently released its debut CD, *Yes Nearby*. Opening acts are **Eric Adams,** local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist **Spencer Michaud,** the versatile acoustic jazz guitarist **Nathan Montgomery, Jesse Passage** (see Club Above), and the local pop-folk jam band **City Goat.** 6:30 p.m.–2 a.m. **Mar. 18: Deep Space Six.** See Club Above. **Mar. 24: Scotty Karate.** This one-man honky-tonk rock 'n' roll band from Downriver celebrates the release of *Keep It in the Teepee*, a collection of what CD Baby says are "intricately written songs and lyrics [that] pour from the heart with poetic sarcasm and leave a delicious aftertaste." Opening act is **Safety Kit,** a pop-noise singer-songwriter who is also celebrating the release of a new CD. **Mar. 25: Mound.** This Detroit rock 'n' roll band celebrates the release of its new CD. Opening acts are **Pillar of Autumn,** an alternative pop-rock band from Southgate, and **DJ Billeebob. Mar. 31: Witch Doctors.** See Enzo's.

Theo Doors

705 W. Cross, Ypsilanti 485–6720

This EMU campus–area restaurant turns into a dance club on Tues., 10 p.m.–2 a.m., with live hip-hop bands. Cover, dancing. March schedule TBA. ■

personals

Personals Key

A=Asian
B=Black
C=Christian
D=Divorced
F=Female
G=Gay
H=Hispanic
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate
ISO=In Search Of
J=Jewish
✍=Letters
LTR=Long Term Relationship
M=Male
ND=Nondrinker
NS=Nonsmoker
☎=Phone Calls
P=Professional
S=Single
W=White

women seeking men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

"Must Love Dogs" sounds catchy, but I want Must Love to Dance, really! "Daily Show" aficionado a plus. **SWF,** 5'6", seeks NS man, 45–50, 5'10"/+ to date, maybe LTR . . . ☎5580✍

Intelligent **WPF,** 62, enjoys reading, classical music, short bike rides, travel, boating—freighter to kayak—ISO NS WPM to share interests. ☎5577✍

Spring into spring with the freshest bloom, healthiest garden, richest soil. Sunny **SWPF** seeks gentleman farmer, scholar, and all-around nice guy. ☎5572✍

Life lover, **SWF,** slim, 5'7". Into yoga, music, singing, nature, my dog, laughing, and dancing. No children. Looking for SM, 45–66, with like interests. ☎5571✍

Attractive, affectionate, intuitive, honest, 5'10" **SWF,** 42, seeking SWM for dinner, movies, travel, and fun. ☎5568✍

Simple, modest, honest, easygoing, 39, **SWF,** looking for a nice guy to spend some time with and have fun. ☎5574✍

If you are a good conversationalist (age 48–60) and like to dine out, this educated, NS, positive, nostalgic **SWF,** 5'10", would like to hear from you. ☎5149✍

men seeking women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

SWM, 45, with 5,000 black hairs and about 15–20 silver ones. ISO like me: fit, unafraid, ready, natural, turned on by great conversation. ☎5579✍

Listen, learn, love, and live. Happy and healthy **SWM,** a young 46, has a home, a business, and a dog. The possibilities are endless! ☎5578✍

Attractive **SWM,** 36, dark hair, blue eyes, interested in sports and travel, seeking SF for friendship or possibly more. ☎5575✍

Simple man with complex gestures. Serendipity will help me make plans with a smart woman. Honorable single male in search of perspicacious SF. ☎5576✍

SWPM, 5'11", 49, thoughtful and romantic. Lover of the arts. Enjoys working out, movies, reading, and most of the cultural activities Ann Arbor offers. ☎5510✍

Are you looking for an energetic, sensual, bright, handsome, caring companion (maybe for life)? Look no farther. Tall **SWPM** over 40 awaits. ☎5508✍

SWM, physically fit, NS, intelligent, honest, accommodating. Enjoys books, movies, travel. ISO similar SWF, compatible, attractive, approximately 45–60. ☎2918✍

DWM, 54, 5'9", 150 lbs., no children, Ph.D. scientist/farmer in conservation/ecology. ISO woman scientist for rural life, international travel, romance. ☎4486✍

Educated, fit **DWPM** loves dancing, the outdoors, the symphony. ISO thin, elegant woman, 39–47, who is positive on relationships. ☎3031✍

SWPM, 48, 5'8", fit, communicative, curious, humorous, no dependents, ISO fit, positive SWPF to share happy, healthy relationship. ☎5467✍

women seeking women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

men seeking men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

friendships

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

Wanted: **Drawing Club.** People interested in drawing live model in group setting. ☎5569✍

Forming Women's Support Circle (ages 45–60) for exploring new activities, places, events about town. Meet up with other bright women and have simple fun. Interested? ☎5573✍

general personals

FAKE AD CONTEST
Can you find the fake display ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a $25 gift certificate from one of our advertisers. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, March 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: Fake Ad, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–4950; e-mail: penny@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number).

ANN ARBOR SKI CLUB
You don't have to ski to be a member! The AASC is a "4 season" social and sports club for singles and couples 21/over from A2 and surrounding communities. Established organization averaging 400 members! Upcoming events: **3/2 General Meeting at Cobblestone Farm; 3/16 St. Patty's Party Meeting/Dance at Cobblestone Farm; 3/30 Annual Business Meeting/Elections at Cobblestone Farm; and 3/31 April Fool's Night Out on the Town. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING SPRING SPORTS.** For more information on events, including sign-up procedures, consult the Club Hotline, (734) 761–3419, or www.a2skiclub.org.

It's Easy to Respond to a Personals Ad!

To Respond by Phone, Call 1·900·226·8978

Follow the simple directions and you will be able to hear more about the people whose ads interest you, or you can browse ads by category. With one call, you can leave as many messages as you like. You may call anytime, 24 hours a day. Voice greetings are valid only for the month they appear in print.

You must be 18 or older.
Touch-Tone phones only. $1.95 a minute.

Or to Respond by Phone Using a Credit Card, Call 1·888·718·4827

To Respond to a Personals Ad by Mail

Responses are forwarded for $3 per letter. Put each letter in its own envelope with the box number and sufficient first-class postage on the front. Do not put your return address on the individual envelopes. Mail all responses (in a larger envelope) to the Observer; include a check for $3 per response made payable to:

Ann Arbor Observer · 201 Catherine · Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Place your FREE Ann Arbor Observer Personals Ad Today!

Here's what you do:

Choose the most convenient method to submit your ad . . .

- ***E-MAIL:*** classifieds@arborweb.com
- ***FAX:*** (734) 769-3375
- ***ON-LINE:*** www.arborweb.com
- ***MAIL OR WALK-IN:***

Ann Arbor Observer Personals
201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Send us the information . . .

- Your ad copy, 39 characters per line, typed or neatly printed.
- Your name, address, and daytime phone.
- Payment (by check, money order, or Visa/MasterCard).

The first 4 lines are FREE!

For singles who use the Personals Call voice-mail system, additional lines are $7 each. Ads that indicate a preference for letters, or those under the "General" heading, cost $7 per line for the entire ad.

Observer Personals Ads are also posted on
www.arborweb.com
Please call with any questions or comments:
(734) 769-3175

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Congratulations!

PERSONALS "AD OF THE MONTH"

Personals ads in the Ann Arbor Observer are eligible for our monthly contest. The winner, chosen for creativity and originality, will receive certificates for ***dinner for two at the Earle*** *and* ***coffee and dessert for two at Espresso Royale Caffe.***

men seeking women
Simple man with complex gestures. Serendipity will help me make plans with a smart woman. Honorable single male in search of perspicacious SF. ☎5576✍

the earle ESPRESSO ROYALE CAFFE

Love is in the air!

Every Friday at 8:35 a.m. on WAAM 1600AM, listen for the Personals Ads of the Week from WAAM's Lucy Ann Lance and the Ann Arbor Observer's Amy Retherford.

brought to you by:

Talk Radio 1600 WAAM

Ann Arbor Observer

classifieds

employment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

Medical Director of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Clinic: Full-time faculty position for a psychiatrist with clinical and research expertise in PTSD at the Ann Arbor VA Healthcare System (AAVAHCS), Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan (U-M). Position as Clinical Assistant Professor to lead a highly specialized outpatient program and be an integral member of an active research program. The successful candidate will have expertise in treating veterans with PTSD and supervising trainees and staff. Experience in research areas of neurobiology and neuroimaging of emotion, stress, and anxiety is required. Candidates should be board certified in Psychiatry, qualify for an appointment to the U-M Medical School faculty as Clinical Assistant Professor (Psychiatry), and have successful prior experience in clinical research (min. 2 years) as evidenced by peer-reviewed scientific publications. Faculty appointment in the U-M Medical School requires national academic recognition with demonstrated skills in clinical care, teaching, and administration. AAVAHCS and the University of Michgan are equal opportunity employers. Interested candidates should submit their CV and three letters of reference to: Carol Burgeson, Human Resource Management Office, 2215 Fuller Road., Ann Arbor, MI 48105. Please include the reference number when replying to this advertisement: [REF: EX-04-06].

for sale

BLOWOUT CLEARANCE SALE on name-brand kids' wear! Save 50%–70% off retail! Exclusive time-limited offer! Bigger discounts on quantity purchases! Log on **www.magickidsusa.com.** Mention discount code **MK19237-A1.**

MORGAN SILVER DOLLARS
1921 U.S. graded Very Fine or better. $19 apiece plus $3–$5 S&H for the first, $1.50 S&H for each additional. Limit 5. Specify mint mark(s) desired, (PD or S). Send check or money order only to HBH Coins LLC, PO Box 130203, Ann Arbor, MI 48113. 10-day money-back guarantee.

entertainment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

TERRABELLA TRIO
Elegant music featuring flute, violin, and cello. Call (734) 996–0303.

★ CLASSICAL HARP MUSIC ★
Live harp music for any occasion.
Deborah Gabrion, (734) 417–6969.

Classical and Jazz Blended Together
The Nova Trio for weddings and all occasions. Featuring some of the country's best musicians. (734) 276–7992.

Live harp music for any occasion. Harp doctorate, U-M. Flute and harp duo also available. Laurel, 663–9292/663–0087.

Classical/Flamenco Guitar—Romantic, energetic, professional. (734) 975–0678.

Intimate Jazz
Looking for that perfect sound for your next event? Classy jazz group perfect for parties, small (second) weddings, company events. Reasonably priced, experienced musicians, extremely reliable. (734) 433–9644; surry@comcast.net.

lessons & workshops

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

VOICE • PIANO
All Ages • All Levels Instruction
Gini Robison, (734) 487–2691.

ANN ARBOR AREA PIANO TEACHERS GUILD for referrals to qualified, professional piano teachers.
All levels and ages, 665–5346.

PIANO LESSONS—Prof. musician on west side. U-M School of Music grad degree. Reasonable fee and flexible arrangements. Marian Patin, 761–7384.

★ MOSAIC CLASSES ★ Art studio environment, beginners and advanced. Gift certificates. Mosaic Sphere Studio, (734) 769–8478, classes@mosaicsphere.com, www.mosaicsphere.com.

You can sing!
Holistic Singing Lessons with Jesse Richards, N.A.T.S. Singing involves your mind, body, spirit, and emotions; in holistic voice we attend to them all, strengthening your voice, while increasing confidence and creativity. All styles and levels welcome. (734) 995–2972 or info@jesserichards.net.

PIANO LESSONS, ALL AGES
Prof. piano teacher, U-M Music School grad. Member of Piano Teachers Guild. Convenient west-side location. Mary Ann McCulloch, (734) 769–7646. E-mail mcpianolady@aol.com.

Opening Doors to Love, A Weekend Workshop for Individuals (in relationship or not), **March 11–12, Ann Arbor area.** Presenter: **Carole Kirby, LMSW. www.therapy4couples.com. (734) 424–2797.**

Supporting Our Children—A Weekend Workshop for Parents and Caregivers based on ***Giving the Love that Heals*** by Dr. Hendrix. **March 18–19, Ann Arbor area.** Marcia Ferstenfeld, MA, presenter. Sponsored by Carole Kirby, LMSW. To register or for more info: **(734) 424–2797.** Carole777@aol.com or **www.therapy4couples.com.**

Flute Lessons: all levels. Former college instructor. (734) 429–1389.

FRENCH LESSONS
Business, travel, school. (734) 998–0903.

GERMAN LESSONS
Native speaker, (734) 973–0670.

Scrapbooking Classes, beginner to advanced. Yael, (734) 332–3789.

miscellaneous

Climate Control Indoor Storage
490 S. Maple, Ann Arbor. Next to Kroger. 662–5262. www.ccindoorstorage.com.

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 131? If you can, you could win a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor.* One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, March 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–4950; e-mail: penny@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number).

services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

COMPUTER SUPPORT
Setup & support, home & small business. Call Tom, (734) 929–0875 or 662–3537.

Accurate Psychic/Channel/Medium: Personal and phone readings. Parties, events, gift certificates. Call Nanci Rose Gerler, Crystal Clear Expressions, (734) 996–8799.

ART AND ANTIQUE APPRAISALS
Insurance and estate tax valuations on your personal property by qualified appraiser. Please call: Jan Hack, (734) 663–5310.

Experienced editor/writer available for editing, proofreading, fact checking, writing projects. Joel Seguine, (734) 730–3410, jseguine@umich.edu.

Personalized Invitations/Announcements
Weddings • Graduations • Bat/Bar Mitzvahs
Family celebrations • Birth announcements
Georgetown Gifts, 971–1068. 4-day service.
www.georgetowngifts.com

VHS, 8 mm, and many digital tapes into DVD. Also editing. (734) 480–2258.

★ Construction Debris—Recycled ★
Roofing, lumber, carpeting, and misc.
TRC HAULING, 665–6895

Writing Tutor/Editor: Call writer/linguist Katie Marien. (734) 994–3015.

business services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

PARADISE TRAVEL SERVICE
Planning a cruise this year? Log on to www.ytbnet.com/charve; referred by charve. Big savings on cruises. Save even more by being a referring travel agent.

★★ Human Factors/ Ergonomics Consultation ★★
and instruction for businesses or schools, large or small. (734) 424–0260 or h_estes@comcast.net. Certified P.E.

★ Technical Writer ★ for engineering or science/medicine. (h_estes@comcast.net).

health

More Than Talk Therapy—Holistic approaches to anxiety, mood, hypnosis, EMDR, Reiki. Lucinda Orwoll, Ph.D., 945–3024.

Private Practice Counseling
Linda Bowman, ACSW, MSW. Specializing in women in transition. E-mail for an appointment: lumdum15@comcast.net.

Seeking a fabulous therapeutic massage? $35/hr. for students, $40/hr. for non-students. Call Rachel, CMT. (734) 717–6777. By appt. only.

ERICKSONIAN HYPNOSIS
For anxiety, addictions, body weight problems, and conquering diabetes. **Joseph Sestito, MSSA, CSW, (440) 317–0641.**

Happiest Baby on the Block!
Extraordinary, proven method to soothe fussy babies fast. Group and private lessons. Gift certificates available. (734) 657–6784, happiestbaby@mac.com.

Philosophical Counseling. Rational choices for a meaningful life. Kate Mehuron, Ph.D., Depot Town Counseling Center, 302 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. kmehuron@yahoo.com. (734) 481-1200. www.philosophypractice.com.

Affordable Massage for Everybody: Deep tissue, sports, pregnancy, injury rehab, on-site/event. Nationally certified, 12 years' exp. Clinic on west side. Open 6 days. Call **Carolann@Relax&Renew.** (734) 368–2138.

classifieds

STRESS BUSTER
Norwegian Massage Therapy
(734) 340–3766 for your appointment.
Workshop: learn couple & sensual massage.

Medical Acupuncture. Alternative treatment for pain, general well-being, energy enhancement, smoking cessation. Depot Town Counseling Center, 302 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Brenda S. Donaldson, M.D., AAFP, FAAEM, AAMA. (734) 481–1200.

PRIVATE YOGA INSTRUCTION
www.YogaAndMeditation.com, 665–7801

home

Retired man Jim. Light hauling, yard work, and junk removal. 330–1670.

Debbie's Housecleaning. Good rates, free estimates. (734) 478–0935.

CRITTER CARE
Pet Care When You Can't Be There
Kristina Taylor
(734) 747–8259

Professional Premium Handyman *Plus*
Is something broken or not working right? Does it bother you? Caring, patient, personalized service. Licensed & insured. Degreed engineer. Since 1995, 90,000 repairs/improvements made. Call Rob, 368–0114. Robert@HelpMeCLE.com.

★ Bookcases & Bookshelves ★
Basic, beautiful, & beyond
Wall units, cabinetry, carpentry
Prompt, reliable, high-quality work
Michael, (734) 904–1690

★ Household Debris—Recycled ★
Appliances, furniture, brush, and misc.
TRC HAULING, 665–6895

★★ PAINTING ★★
Neighborhood Painters
Local Company
Interior and Exterior
Deck power washing, staining
Call (734) 276–7464

SNOW REMOVAL. Be safe this winter! Snow blowers. **Reliable,** seasonal or vacation, nontoxic ice melters. Licensed and insured. **"Clear & Clean," Haynes Homes Services, (734) 428–1247.**

★ A2 Pet Solutions ★ Professional pet sitting, dog walking. Compassionate, bonded/insured. www.a2pet.com. 678–4771.

Painter from the U.P. Ten years' experience. Interior specials. Great references. Call (734) 651–2440 for a free estimate.

Burlygirl Residential Cleaning
Reliable, good service with reasonable rates. Fully bonded and insured.
(734) 383–2298

All About Cleaning. Home and office. (734) 480–2258.

Wayne's Handyman Services. Electrical, carpentry, plumbing, etc. All your household needs. Professional, reasonable. (734) 663–3631.

★ Home Staging/Decorating ★
Complete room redesign or just a fresh coat of paint. I can help you get top dollar from the sale of your home or just give it a great new look!
Laurie Buys, (734) 658–7158
laurie.buys@sbcglobal.net

• DESIGN THE FENG SHUI WAY •
Making your space supportive of your well-being. Color and arrangement consultation. Corky, 996–8519 / 395–6031.

★★★ HOUSEKEEPER ★★★
The best references in town!
Experienced and reliable.
Call Lucy at (734) 945–9078.
E-mail luciana_guidini@hotmail.com.

Garden Design and Renovation Help! All areas covered; old/new gardens; (734) 761–5616; plantscape_design@yahoo.com.

★★ Housecleaning Available. Call for free estimate. References. Dependable. Call after 5 p.m. Ask for Barb or leave message. (734) 241–8582 ★★

LUMINESCENT FRENCH BEADED FLOWERS. I can transform glass beads and wire into flowers that never wilt. You provide the vase or cachepot. Perfect for Easter or Mother's Day. (734) 994–4548.

★ GARDEN MAINTENANCE ★
Leaf Clean-up & Lawn Maintenance
Mulching, Weeding, & Pruning
Serving Ann Arbor for 22 years
(734) 944–0645

★A Helpful Hand★ Professional cleaning/organizing. (734) 975–4229.

Excellent Cleaning Service
327–0786. Reasonable rates, free estimate.

ArborServe Renovation Services
Licensed • Insured • Free Consultation
Decks • Baths • Kitchens • Painting
www.arborserve.com (734) 649–1307

Beautiful, custom-made slipcovers
Lucky deals this month, 913–8131,
www.michigansmom.com

Carmeiro's Housekeeping. Please call (734) 644–5510. Mariana.

Abandon your search. Call **Pete the Dust Man** for your cleaning. Bonded and insured. (734) 761–5180.

photography

★ WEDDINGS ★ PORTRAITS ★
More than 10 years
of photography experience.
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(734) 417–8946

★ WEDDINGS/BAR MITZVAHS ★
Experienced professional; personal service and reasonable rates. You own and keep the negatives! For information:
Jim Kruz, (734) 668–6988.

Weddings/Bar Mitzvahs/Portraits
Artistic portraiture and creative coverage of events. Dorothy Gotlib, (734) 223–7069.
www.dorothygotlib.com

Professional color slides and digital photos of your paintings, artwork, etc. I come to your home or studio. A2's choice for over 20 yrs. $5/slide. Garin Horner: (734) 662–7691 or slides@sbcglobal.net.

www.beringphotography.com
glenn bering
734.485.5445

real estate

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 10.

Homework? Do your research on Ann Arbor real estate at **www.arbormap.com.**

homes for sale

EBERWHITE—Updated ranch, 930 Sherwood, 3 bedrooms, 1½ baths, vaulted ceilings, 2 fireplaces. $264,900. Call Marjorie Uren, (734) 635–1881. Century 21 Brookshire.

10-Acre Country Estate—Pinckney Area. Modern home, woods, fenced pastures, large barn. Asking $438,500. Complete details, call: (734) 878–0200. For photos: http://www.dwebdesigns.com/house/house.html.

Rare Ann Arbor Lakeside Home
Located in private Loch Alpine, minutes from downtown and U-M. Visit website for home tour. $549,000. Agents welcome. (734) 424–9610. www.lochalpine.com.

real estate—land

40 ACRES. Gorgeous private setting near Chelsea. Rolling meadow, woods border beautiful lake and river waterway. (734) 662–0736.

real estate wanted

Retired couple from Tucson wishes to rent a place in Ann Arbor for June, July, and August. Time frame negotiable. (520) 327–7310.

Observer Classifieds Form

APRIL DEADLINE
MARCH 10

Mail, fax, or bring form to: Ann Arbor Observer Classifieds, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Fax: (734) 769-3375, E-mail: classifieds@arborweb.com
Please include payment by check, cash, Visa, or Mastercard.

REACH OVER
128,000 READERS

ANN ARBOR OBSERVER CLASSIFIEDS—

RUN AD IN:

JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.
SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.

NUMBER OF LINES
X $7.00 PER LINE _____
X # OF MONTHS _____
TOTAL $ _____

CHECK APPROPRIATE CLASSIFIEDS CATEGORY

- ❑ EMPLOYMENT
- ❑ ENTERTAINMENT
- ❑ LESSONS & WORKSHOPS
- ❑ FOR SALE
- ❑ SERVICES—BUSINESS
- ❑ SERVICES—HEALTH
- ❑ SERVICES—HOME
- ❑ SERVICES—PHOTOGRAPHY
- ❑ SERVICES—GENERAL
- ❑ WANTED
- ❑ GENERAL PERSONALS
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR RENT
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE BY OWNER
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—HOMES
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—CONDOS
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—LAND
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—COMMERCIAL
- ❑ VACATION RENTALS
- ❑ REAL ESTATE WANTED

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
E-MAIL _____

❑ CHARGE MY VISA ❑ CHARGE MY MASTERCARD ❑ CHECK ENCLOSED
ACCOUNT NUMBER _____
EXPIRATION DATE _____
SIGNATURE _____

RATES & GUIDELINES

- $7.00 per line, or fraction of a line, per insertion. 2 line minimum.
- Each letter, punctuation mark, and word space counts as a box. Capital letters use two boxes.
- Average 39 characters per line.
- Use only standard abbreviations.
- Move word to the next line if it does not fit completely at the end of a line.
- If bold/centered text is desired, please indicate.
- Ads will run in the next open issue.

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 769-3175, Fax (734) 769-3375

For Office Use Only
Log date: _____

services

business

Computer Support Services

MondoDyne
Macintosh Computer Support Services
Set-up • Maintenance • Training
Home – Office – Wireless Installation – Digital Photography
Mike Gould, In Charge
mgould@mondodyne.com 734 904 0659

Computer House Call
Home & Office • Repair • Networking
Virus/Spyware Removal • Setup & Configuration
Instruction • Hardware & Software Consultation
734-417-7163 · gerbre@gmail.com
www.GeraldBrennan.com/chc.html

PC Crash Control
(734)255-3180
www.pc-crashcontrol.com
On-site PC repair/upgrades. Day/Eve/Weekend.
Services start at just $25. 15-years experience.

Catering

The Pastry Cart
Desserts & Pastries for Special Occasions
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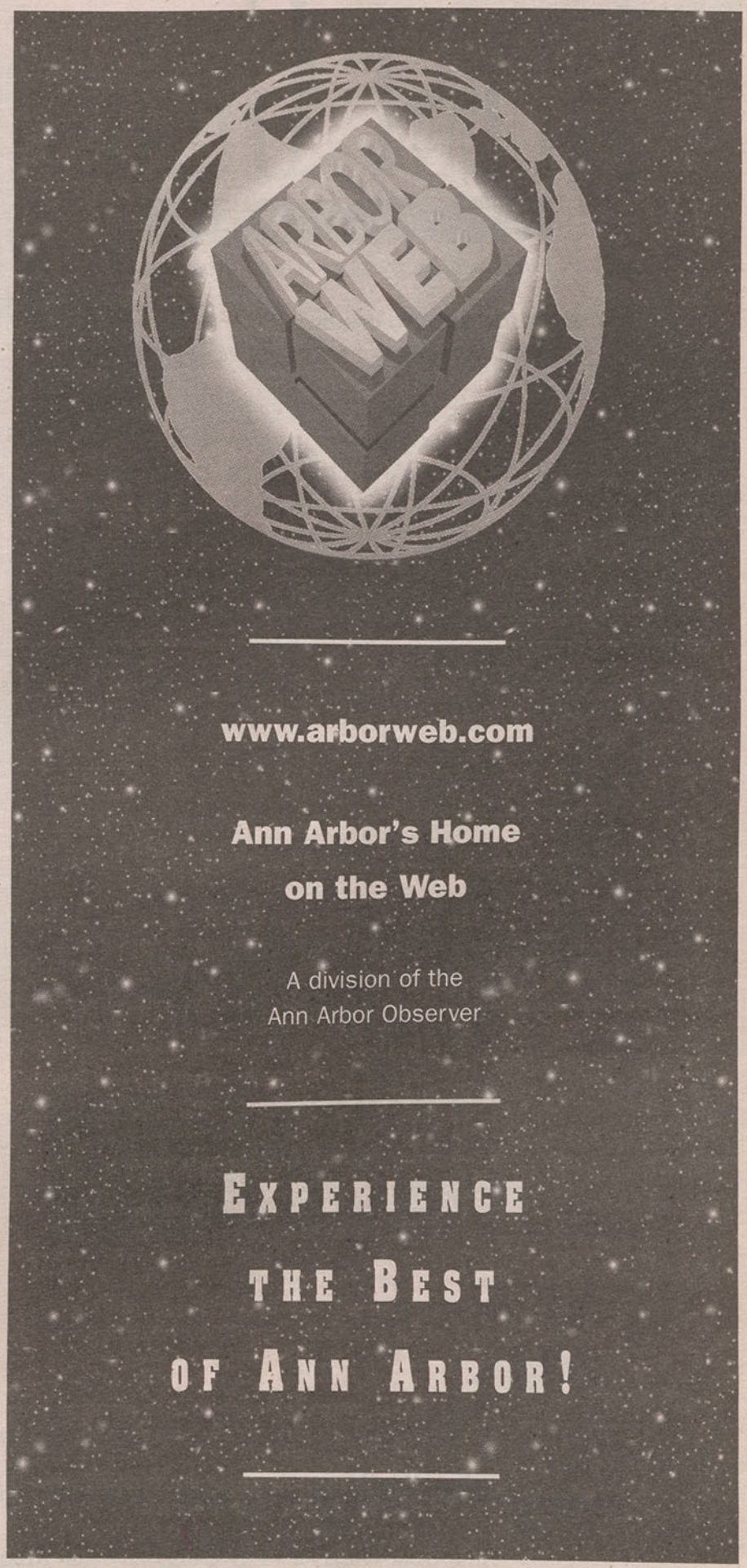
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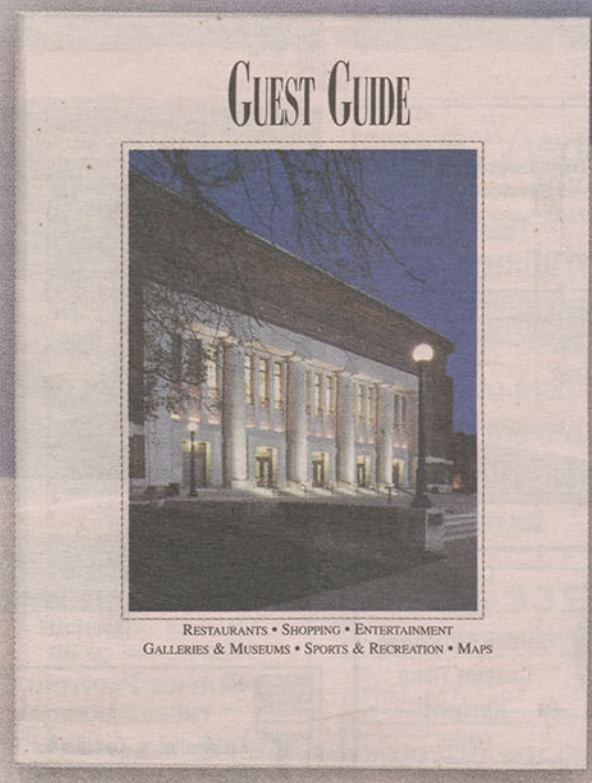

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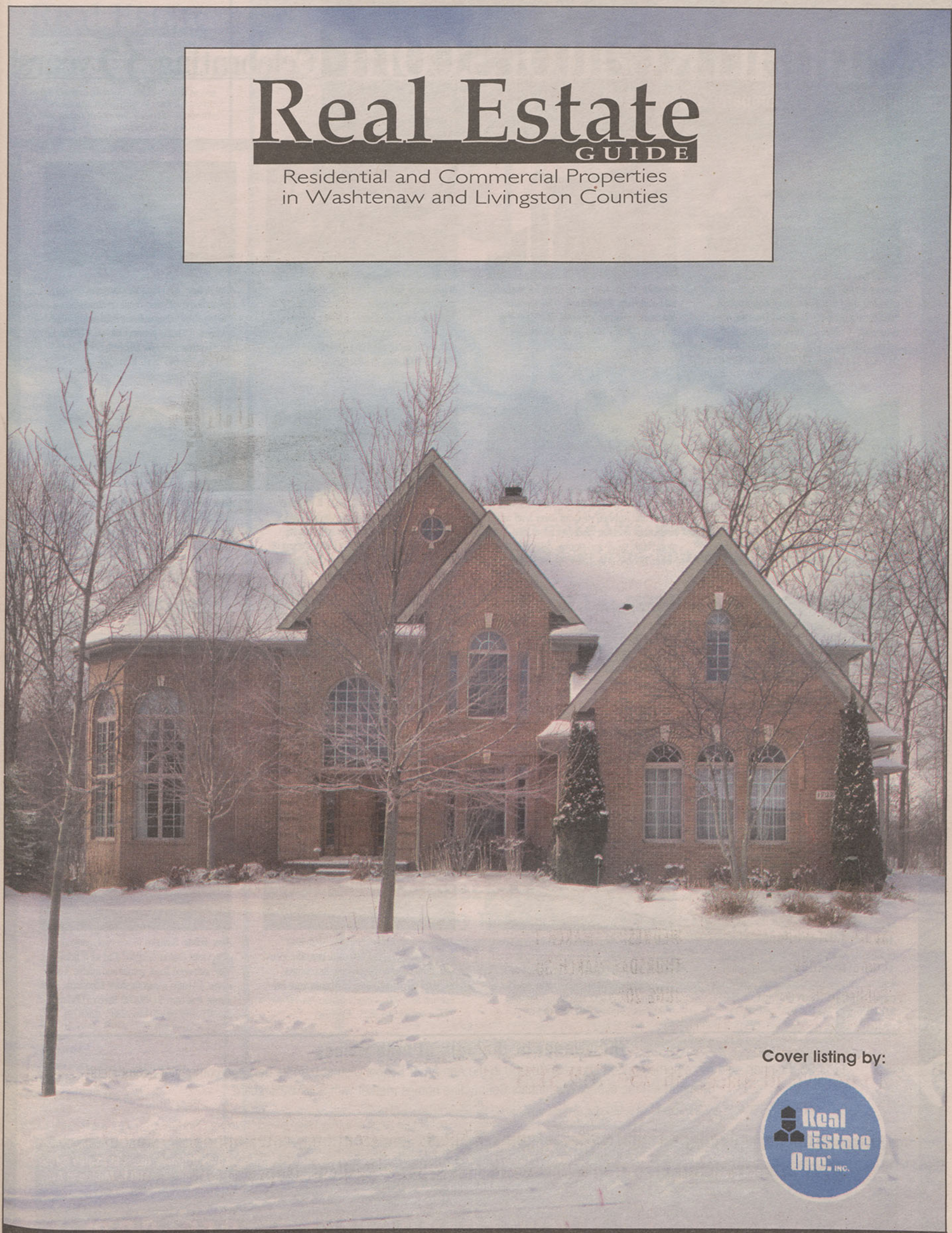
Real Estate GUIDE

Residential and Commercial Properties
in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties



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Dexter Brand new home ready for immediate occupancy. Paved roads. 5.84 acre site. Accessory buildings approved. $609,900. Pat Durston 734-971-6070, eves 734-260-9247. #2515390

Whitmore Lake Dexter Schools. 2-story, brick, 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on 2 wooded acres. Cherry cabinets, granite counters, 2 fireplaces, hardwoods, fin. walkout, deck, 3-car garage. $685,000. Mary Lee Dunlavy 734-475-9600, eves 734-891-9792. #2505450

Ann Arbor 4954 High Meadow Lane. Fabulous custom home with every detail, on almost 2 acres. 5,200 sq. ft. including walkout. Hardwood floors, 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, 4 fireplaces and 3 porches. $865,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #2515364

Ann Arbor Maintenance-free, first floor living with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, plus study. Finished lower level with walkout. 2-car garage. Lots of storage. $569,000. Susan Gartin 734-665-0300, eves 734-645-7219. #2511059

Ann Arbor 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with 2 studies and finished view-out lower level with kitchenette,workout space, rec room, bedroom, bath, study and storage. $619,000. Lisa Stelter 734-665-0300, eves 734-645-7909.

Ann Arbor Spectacular 3,800 sq. ft. contemporary on wooded homesite. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, study, viewout lower level. Granite, birdseye maple, Meisel cabinets. Impressive amenities throughout. $795,000. Nancy L. Bahr 734-665-0300, eves 734-645-2598. #2600744

Ann Arbor 640 Dornoch. Spectacular 6,000 sq. ft. brick home on Polo Fields Golf Course. First floor master, study, 3 fireplaces, 4.5 baths, incredible walkout and landscaping. 5-car garage. $890,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #2508708

Pinckney Top quality custom brick home overlooks large private pond in recreational waterfront community. Gourmet kitchen, 3 fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, 3f/1h baths. $569,900. Alice Roderick 734-747-7777, eves 734-669-5842. #2600637

Chelsea Storybook setting on South Lake. Fantastic 1930's home on 4 acres w/Henry Ford ties. 3 massive fireplaces, lakeside screened porch, guest house, small barn. $649,000. Deborah Engelbert 734-475-9600, eves 734-368-3683. #2515700

Dexter 6843 Daly. Brand new, exquisite, 4,500 sq. ft. home on gorgeous waterfront lot. Striking features throughout. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, on 2 acre site with privacy galore. $799,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #2600850

Ann Arbor Spectacular living and dining with oak flooring and crown molding. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, fabulous rec room. 2-story English library. Gorgeous gardens and mature trees. $1,150,000. Fran Jones 734-971-6070, eves 734-994-6505. #2600898

Ann Arbor Oversized lot on the 3rd green of the Polo Fields. Custom built 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home with huge kitchen, finished walkout with bedroom, bathroom and Berber carpet. $599,900. Sherry Grammatico 734-971-6070, eves 734-604-0367. #2600319

Ann Arbor Spectacular, 6 bedroom, 3 bath home built in 1849 on landscaped wooded site. Renovated in 2005. 3,515 sq. ft., gorgeous wrap-around porch. Minutes to downtown. $649,000. Lisa Stelter 734-665-0300, eves 734-645-7909. #2600285

Dexter Wonderful 4 bedroom, 3f/2h bath home with over 5,000 sq. ft. Beautiful solarium, hardwood floors, granite counters, wired for sound and ethernet. Maintenance-free exterior. $829,000. Sheila Shulman 734-747-7777, eves 734-996-3823. #2600743

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Real Estate GUIDE

Residential and Commercial Properties in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties

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On the Cover: Fantastic custom-built home in Newport Creek, one of Ann Arbor's premier neighborhoods. Its many amenities include a cherry kitchen with granite countertops and high-end appliances, dramatic living spaces with top-quality finishes, a luxury master suite, a finished basement, and the latest in home electronics. $1,399,900. Matt Dejanovich, Real Estate One. (734) 476-7100.
Cover photo by J. Adrian Wylie

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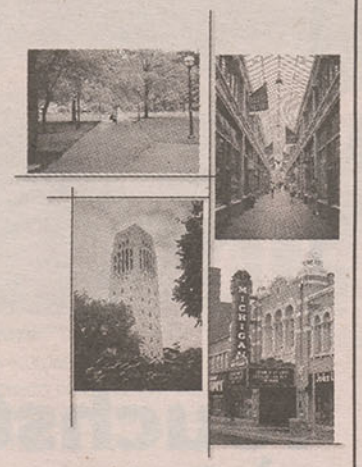

Featured Property: Terrific 3 bedroom, 2 bath Westside home at $299,900. Marketed by Mary Ellen Wood.

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THE MOST INCREDIBLE – 7.5 acres of heavily wooded rolling hills and streams in Washtenaw county. Twelve minutes to Ann Arbor. Architectually designed praire style ranch with finished walkout, 4-bedroom, 3-bath, media & game room, wine cellar, and workshop $598,900. **Marsha Z. Bateson, 645-5622/302-8824** (MO2601817)

NE ANN ARBOR – Newer 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath home with island kitchen, formal living and dining rooms, family room with fireplace, and new Cedar/Trex deck and screened porch. Master with walk-in closet and bath with garden tub and separate shower. Almost ½ acre! $359,900. **Linda Tenza, 276-0200 / 662-8600.** lindatenza@comcast.net. (PR2515907)

GLENNBOROUGH DEVELOPMENT – Warm family home on park-like lot features first-floor master, open floor plan, large kitchen, great room and deck. Pleasant 4-season room off nook plus finished 1,383 sq. ft. lower level for home theatre and recreation. Lower level could be 5th bedroom. $824,900. **Mike Rohde, 646-3310 / 662-8600.** mrohde@rc.net. (BE2601118)

SWEET OLD WESTSIDE HOME – Immaculate 2-bedroom, 1-bath home freshly carpeted, painted and typical of the 1920 era with charm abounding throughout. Three-car garage with workspace and storage. Extensive landscaping with patio, deck and bubbling pond. Visit www.109Pleasant.com. $259,900. **Barbara Gaines, 439-8405 / 439-4131.** (PL2513989)

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STONEBRIDGE – This is one of the finest homes you will find. Incredible custom-built home on a premier wooded setting backing to a gorgeous stream. Luxurious appointments throughout including two-story family room with wall of glass, gourmet kitchen, dream master suite, and finished walkout basement. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEWPORT CREEK – Spectacular new home by Harris in Ann Arbor's premier custom home community. This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath, two-story has a long list of quality features and amenities including cherry kitchen, granite counters, two-story family room, walkout basement, custom trim. Luxurious throughout. $894,500 **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Gracious 5-bedroom, 4½-bath custom-built home on the golf course in one of Saline's premier communities. Vaulted ceilings, cherry kitchen, granite countertops, hardwood floors, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $849,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Stately 4-bedroom, 4½-bath custom-built home on the 9th hole at Stonebridge. Gracious brick colonial on perfect grounds with extensive patio, 3-car garage, 2-story family room, cherry kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished basement with bar, rec room, home theater, and bath. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Stunning 4-bedroom, 3-bath timber frame style home set on 12 gorgeous, private acres bordering nature conservatory. Incredible feel with exposed beam construction, upgrades galore, custom kitchen with granite counters, luxury master bedroom, and separate suite with full kitchen. $579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WATERWAYS – Custom 4-bedroom, 3½-bath, great room style home on a quiet cul-de-sac backing to woods and pond. Wonderful plan with first-floor master suite, two-story living room, open kitchen to family room with back stair, and finished basement, extensive landscaping. $549,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – New-construction. Stunning arts and crafts 4-bedroom, 2½-bath, two-story with spring occupancy (Eberwhite Elementary). Custom features throughout including maple kitchen with granite counters, ample hardwood floors, luxury master suite, and more. $549,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Very special 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home in Hunter's Ridge. Gracious colonial set deep in the neighborhood features private lot with ancient oak tree. Interior is fabulous including two-story family room, spacious kitchen with hardwood floor and Corian, luxury master suite, and finished basement. You will love it. $549,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HUNTINGTON WOODS – This is another quality 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home by Bayberry Construction in one of Saline's most desired new subs. Incredible plan with two-story family room, kitchen with cherry cabinets, granite counters, and 11-ft. ceilings, luxury master suite, 3-car garage, and walkout basement. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Striking 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on 10.5 peaceful acres in Lodi Township. Colonial-style home with large front porch, 30' x 40' outbuilding, sharp interior featuring open kitchen with maple cabinets, large family room, luxury master suite with sitting room, and finished walkout basement. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LEGACY HEIGHTS – Be part of Pittsfield Township's most successful new neighborhood by Bayberry in this stunning 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home. Striking arts and crafts design features cherry kitchen, granite counters, 3-car garage, and a load of upgrades. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Stunning detached condo at Highpoint in Stonebridge. Like new, custom features and amenities. Interior is gorgeous, cherry kitchen with professional grade appliances, great room with vaulted ceiling, den with built-ins, screened porch, and luxury master suite with dream bath. $474,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – POLO FIELDS – Perfect golf course frontage 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial loaded with desirable features inside and out. Enjoy the views from the oversized brick paver patio. Interior is crisp with two-story foyer, maple kitchen with granite island, family room with fireplace, and luxurious master suite includes dressing area. $447,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Another fabulous 4-bedroom, 3½-bath new construction by Bayberry in Huntington Woods. Wonderful design features first-floor master bedroom, two-story great room, large kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite countertops, walkout basement, and 3-car garage. $439,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

EAST HORIZONS – This is a super 5-bedroom, 3½-bath custom-built home on a spacious acre lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Features inside and out with extensive landscaping, large deck, great room with vaulted ceiling, large kitchen with hearth sitting area, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $429,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

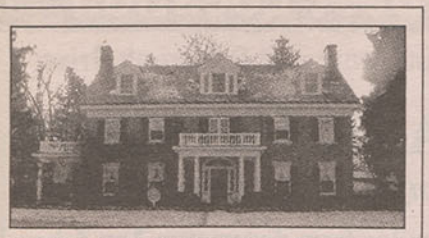
SALINE – Another fabulous new home in Huntington Woods by Bayberry Construction. Gracious 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home loaded with quality features and amenities including 3-car garage, view-out basement, cherry kitchen, and granite counters. $419,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR SCHOOLS – Very rare opportunity. Completely updated all-brick ranch on 3.5 manicured acres in Pittsfield Twp. Gorgeous interior with open kitchen, large formal living room, family room with fireplace, and all glass sunroom. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – GRASS LAKE - This 4-bedroom, 3-bath model home by Harris Homes is now available. Gorgeous interior décor highlight this very livable home. Great location just one mile off I-94. Features include oversized great room, kitchen with hardwood floor, and large first-floor master suite with sitting area and deluxe bath. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING - SALINE – Rare opportunity! Four-unit income property in the heart of downtown Saline. Very well maintained historic home fully leased with positive cash flow. Three one-bedroom units and an efficiency. This is a perfect place to get started owning rental property. $329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MILAN – This is one of the nicest homes you will find. Completely remodeled 4-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a spacious acre lot in York Township. The list is long: cherry kitchen, remodeled baths, perfect décor, finished walkout basement, huge deck and patio. WOW! $329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



BURNS PARK – One of the Grand Homes of Ann Arbor available for the first time. Gracious all-brick Georgian colonial in one of the most premiere locations in town. Old world craftsmanship at its finest with extensive woodwork, mahogany doors and trim, 4 fireplaces, and spectacular proportions throughout. $1,495,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

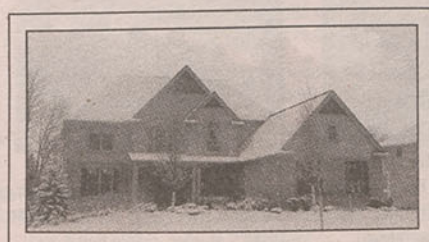
NEWPORT CREEK – Fantastic custom-built home in Ann Arbor's premier neighborhood. Gourmet cherry kitchen with granite and the highest-end appliances, dramatic living spaces with top quality finish, luxury master suite, finished basement, the latest home electronics, and more. $1,399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – Stunning 2003 Showcase of Homes entry. Arts and Crafts inspired home features incredible grounds with large paver patio, pond, and waterfall. Interior is special including gourmet kitchen with Viking appliances, dream master suite, and lower level entertainment center with theater, bar, gaming, and more!! $1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – This home is absolutely breathtaking. Super custom-built home overlooking the pond and #17 fairway at Stonebridge. Every conceivable amenity is here including extensive cherry floors, cherry kitchen with granite counters, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement with large rec room. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Stunning new construction now under way in Pheasant Hollow by Evergreen Custom Homes. Incredible design and flair make this home a real winner. Custom features throughout including maple kitchen with granite counter, two-story family room, luxury master suite, and more. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Arts and crafts inspired new construction by Eberwhite Elementary. Incredible 4-bedroom, 2-bath home by Strickland displays the finest in design, craftsmanship, and materials. Custom kitchen with high-end appliances and granite, study with built-ins, luxury master suite, and more. $689,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE – Builder's model home 4-bedroom, 4½-bath Huntington Woods. This home is incredible featuring extensive upgrades, professional decorating, and more. Amenities include gorgeous crown moldings, cherry kitchen, granite counters, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $644,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YORK MEADOWS – Fabulous new construction by Mitch Gasche on a tree-lined acre lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Incredible 5-bedroom, 4½-bath design with only the best finishes. Features include custom maple kitchen with granite countertops, den with site-built cabinets, maple hardwood floors, and luxury master suite. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – NE ANN ARBOR – Custom-built three-year-old 4-bedroom, 3-bath, ranch located between AA and Plymouth. This custom designed home features a large kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, great room with 10' ceilings, luxury master suite, and wonderful lower level rec space. $549,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Quality 4-bedroom, 4-bath, backing to trees in one of the area's most desired subs. Perfect condition. Great room with vaulted ceiling, large kitchen with granite counter tops, luxury first floor master bedroom, and finished lower level with great rec room, extensive landscaping. $519,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

THE ARBORETUM – Former builder's model fully loaded. Stunning 4-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial design in one of Saline's most desired subs. Wonderful floor plan features curved entry stair, kitchen with maple cabinets and upgraded appliances, large family room, and luxury master suite with sitting area and dream bath. $519,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR SCHOOLS – Turn-of-the-century 4-bedroom, 2½-bath Victorian on 4 acres in Pittsfield Twp. Incredible combination of historic beauty, modern updates, and a park-like setting. Features include heated garage, barn, remodeled kitchen with granite, fieldstone fireplace, and remodeled master suite. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

THE UPLANDS – Absolutely perfect 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home in a quiet, interior location in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Wonderful features throughout including 2-story foyer, 9-ft. ceilings, spacious kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished basement with large rec room. You will love it. $469,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Another quality custom home by Bayberry in the Arboretum. First-time offering featuring stunning arts and crafts exterior, two-story foyer, large kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite countertops, extra large mud room, family room with 11-ft. ceilings, and unique walk-up master suite. $464,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This 4-bedroom, 4½-bath Bayberry home in the Arboretum is an incredible value. Many quality features and amenities including cherry kitchen with Corian counters, oversized two-story great room, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished basement with viewout windows. $460,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

PLEASANT LAKE – This lakefront home has one of the finest views you will find anywhere in the Ann Arbor area. Breathtaking panoramic views of Pleasant Lake from this completely updated home. New kitchen, Corian countertops, great room with stone fireplace, and extensive decking, landscaping, dock, etc. $459,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TECUMSEH – Completely remodeled 4-bedroom, 3-bath 1800s farmhouse on 15 pastoral acres 10 minutes south of downtown Saline. Featuring heated barn perfect for car storage. Interior has best of old and new with cherry kitchen and Corian counters, hardwood floor, oversized moldings, family room, and luxury master suite. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR – Striking custom-built home on one of the finest lots in Hometown Village. Enjoy incredible views of trees and nature from the two-tiered deck of spectacular home. Interior is perfect, featuring 10-ft. ceilings, dramatic family room, oversized kitchen, and luxury master bedroom suite with sitting room. You will love it! $389,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CENTENNIAL FARMS – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home in one of Saline Schools' most desired subs. Loaded with features and amenities including great room, large kitchen with ceramic tile floor, luxury first-floor master suite, large bedrooms, and finished basement with large rec room and study. $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SAGINAW HILLS – Incredible opportunity available with this 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a gorgeous 2.8 acre lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Unique interior design features oversized living room with vaulted ceiling, family room with fireplace, master loft, and some wonderful flex-use space. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA SCHOOLS – Super sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath architect's home on 3 peaceful acres in the Waterloo recreation area. This home features clean lines and quality upgrades throughout. Gourmet kitchen with maple cabinets and cherry floor, great room with 2-way fireplace, luxury master suite, and more. $319,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – NE ANN ARBOR – Very nice 2-bedroom, 2½-bath Providence unit at Barclay Park. This unit is super sharp featuring custom paint, gorgeous upgrades including hardwood floor, maple cabinets, whirlpool tub, and a gorgeous view of natural area. You will be impressed. $259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP – This 3-bedroom, 2-bath tri-level on a private acre lot is just 10 minutes from downtown Ann Arbor. Opportunity to enjoy a peaceful country setting so close to town. Home is completely updated and features a 3-tier deck, small pole barn, bright open spaces, and great flex-use space. $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI – Super sharp 3-bedroom, 1½-bath brick colonial, walking distance to EMU. This home is as cute as it gets and in move-in condition. Features include spacious living room with hardwood floors, coved ceiling and fireplace, formal dining room, large sun room, spacious bedrooms, and private backyard. $189,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

Reinhart Reinhart Reinhart R

Ann Arbor 3245 Parkridge. Charming, spacious colonial on gorgeous 1.6 acre lot. 4,200 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 2 studies, extensively updated. Beautiful home to live in and enjoy. $795,000. #2601511

Ann Arbor 4176 High Ridge. Exceptional quality! New luxury home on wooded lot. First floor master, plus 2 bedrooms. Italian granite and tumbled marble, plank cherry floors. Landscaped. $939,000. #2515727

Dexter Fox Ridge. 5 specs available, or custom build. Only 17, 1+ acre wooded sites left! Low $400,000's. Model hours, open 12-5pm every day except Thursday. Model 734-426-2638.

Ann Arbor 710 Watershed. Stunning contemporary home nestled in the woods. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 fireplaces, screened porch. Desirable neighborhood, minutes to town. Private! $799,000. #2601314

Ann Arbor 3637 Briarlee. Awesome, brick 5-6 bedroom home on 1.6 acres with 205 ft. on the Huron River. 2 studies, maple floors and cabinets with granite. Walkout with exercise, billiards and rec rooms. $949,000. #2513788

Saline 5477 Bethel Church. Beautiful setting on 5 rolling acres surrounded by trees. Custom 3,950 sq. ft. including walkout, 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, study. Near town yet peaceful and quiet. $459,900. #2601323

Dexter 2301 Zeeb. Beautiful 5 bedroom, 4f/3h bath home on private, wooded site. Great room, gorgeous master, granite kitchen, study with bookcases. Walkout with bar and home theater. $799,900. #2508032

Ann Arbor 3221 Heather. Brick, 5-6 bedroom, 6,800 sq. ft. home on golf course. Expansive plan, cherry study, walkout with exercise room and sauna. Stone patio with built-in grill and spa. $1,349,000. #2601431

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Stunning Three Story Brownstone! Quality built luxury. 2 bedrooms plus flex room ideal for office, study or family room. 2086 SF. Attached garage. Fireplace. A must see!! All offers considered. **$519,000**

NE Ann Arbor

Nearly New Northside Ridge Ranch! Sophisticated décor. 2 BR. Elegant crown moldings, wainscoating & arched doors. 10' ceilings. Cherry cabinets & ceramic tile floors in kitchen & baths. 1525 SF Full basement. 2 car garage. **$259,900**

NE Ann Arbor

Spectacular Views of Pond!! Premium setting overlooks central pond & woods! 2 bedroom 2.5 baths. Three story loft. 1900 SF. Beautiful oak hardwood floors. Fireplace in hearth room. Maple cabinets. Deck. Att garage. **$244,900**

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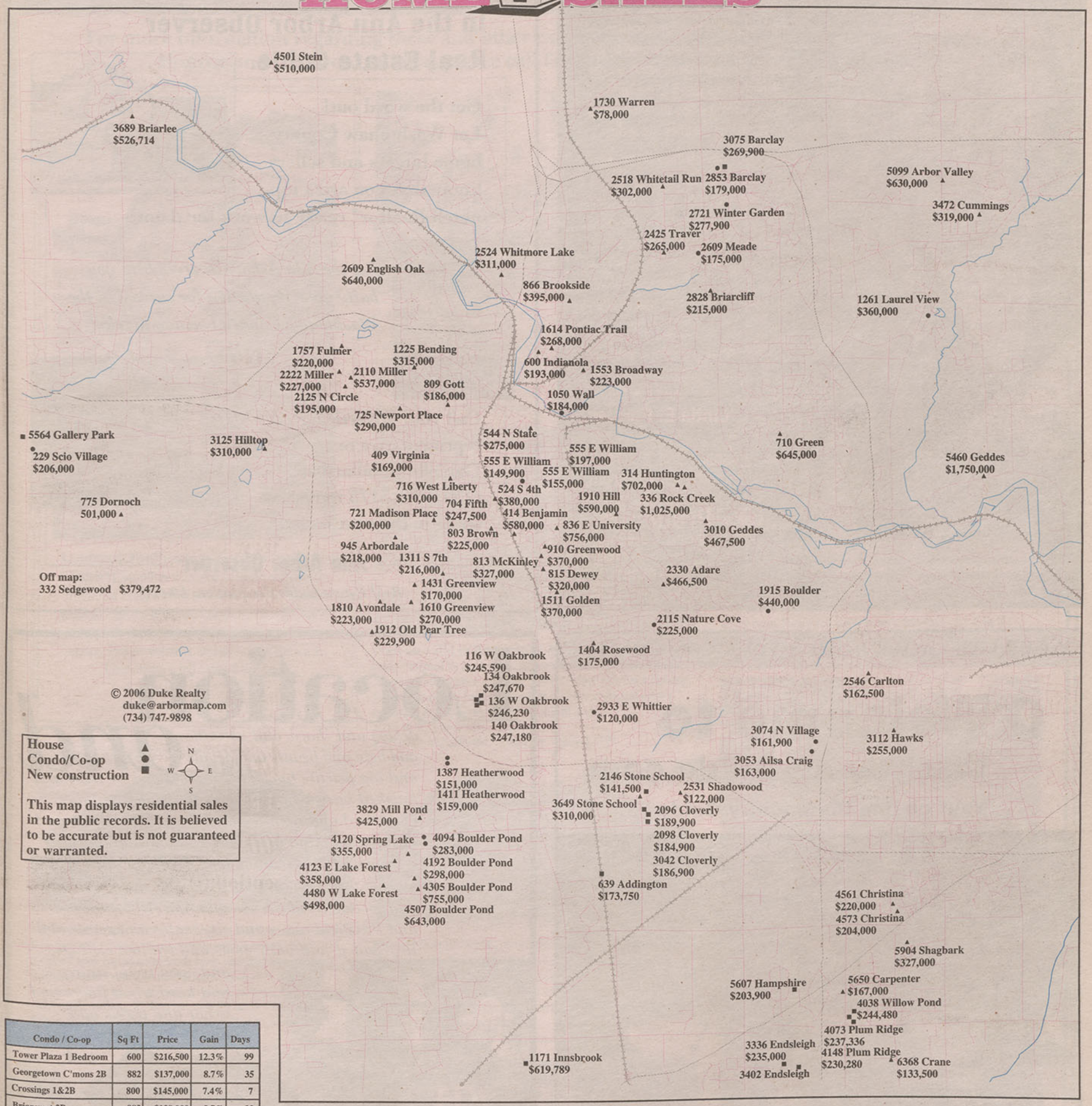
HOME SALES



Condo / Co-op	Sq Ft	Price	Gain	Days
Tower Plaza 1 Bedroom	600	$216,500	12.3%	99
Georgetown C'mons 2B	882	$137,000	8.7%	35
Crossings 1&2B	800	$145,000	7.4%	7
Briarcrest 2B	983	$139,000	3.7%	32
Weatherstone 2B	1,125	$155,500	1.0%	64
Liberty Pointe 2B	1,378	$194,000	0.6%	65
Walden Hills 2B	1,173	$128,500	0.4%	27
Village Co-op 1B	1,080	$79,700	-0.4%	73
Turnberry Village 2B	1,123	$163,000	-0.5%	42
Brentwood Square 2B	1,563	$212,450	-1.4%	74
Walden Hills 1B	1,014	$103,400	-1.8%	45
Alpine 2B	1,280	$174,500	-2.8%	173
Chapel Hill 2B	1,280	$171,000	-2.8%	141
Heatherwood 2B	1,100	$149,500	-2.9%	49
Barclay Park 2B	1,900	$223,000	-4.2%	52
Geddes Lake Co-op 2B	1,280	$106,000	-8.5%	165

Last year 578 condos were resold in the Ann Arbor school district, just four fewer than in 2004. Our count, which drew on public records and the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors Multiple Listing Service, includes existing units sold by Realtors and by owners; it doesn't include new construction.

The table at left ranks sixteen local condominiums by the percentage gain (or loss) for selected floor plans sold each year. By this measure, Tower Plaza wins the gold medal. The median price of one-bedroom units rose 12.3 percent—though it must be noted that this year's sales were all on the ninth floor or higher. Those units usually command a premium because they include a better view. The silver medal goes to Georgetown Commons, which climbed 8.7 percent—more than recovering the 7 percent loss we measured between 2003 and 2004 (Observer, May 2005).

Only five of our sixteen complexes recorded any price gain last year. The 1,280-square-foot floor plan at Geddes Lake slipped 8.5 percent—but these older co-ops (built in 1970) were not the only units to lose ground. Condos in Barclay Park, which was built in 2002, resold for 4.2 percent less in 2005 than in 2004. According to our analysis of the Realtors' figures, nine of our sixteen examples also saw an increase in market time—the median number of days between listing and sale.

—Kevin Duke

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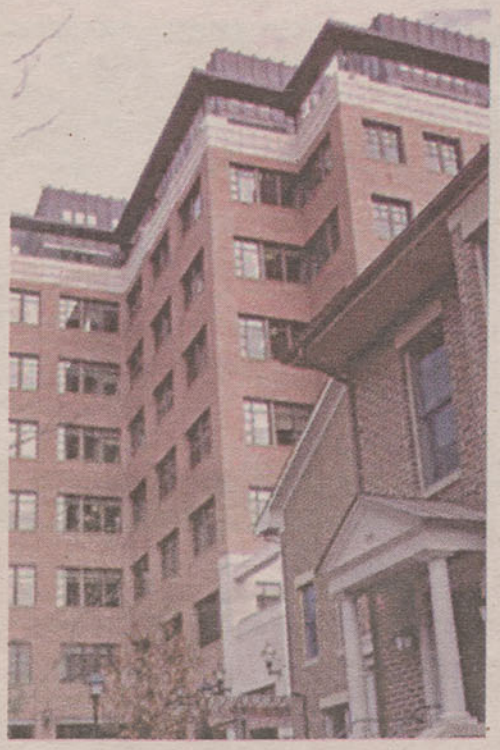

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A Classic Gem, completely renovated, in Ann Arbor Hills. Four levels of living space, with a very private third-floor master suite and second master on second floor. Gorgeous hardwood floors, crown molding, solid wood doors, carved fireplace. State-of-the-art kitchen, nanny suite, extensive deck. 5,500 sq. ft.; 4 bedrooms, 5 full baths, 1 half bath.
$1,175,000 • ML#2600893 • Nancy Bishop 734.761.3040

High on a Hill in Barton Hills, this light-filled contemporary home designed by Robert Metcalf offers spectacular pond views. Pewabic tiled fireplace, gourmet "galley" kitchen with brick flooring, four-season porch. Large master suite with spa room and private courtyard; finished lower level with private patio.
3,783 sq. ft.; 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths.
$995,000 • ML#2600454 • Patti Eddy 734.646.2705

Craftsman-Inspired two-story home in Lodi Township, custom built by David Prentice. Heart-of-the-house kitchen has large breakfast nook and adjacent family room with fireplace. Spacious first-floor master suite also has fireplace. Study with cherry woodwork, floor-to-ceiling windows in soaring living room, pond views. 3,100 sq. ft.; 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 1 half bath.
$779,500 • ML#2600657 • Nancy Bishop 734.761.3040

Hillside Haven in The Preserve, Scio Twp., offers three levels of living space. Gourmet kitchen, first-floor master suite opens to covered porch. Dramatic views from floor-to-ceiling windows in family room, two fireplaces, finished walkout with wet bar, second family room. Six-car garage with heated workshop. 4,095 sq. ft.; 4 bedrooms; 4 full baths, 1 half bath.
$799,000 • ML#2514908 • Nancy Bishop 734.761.3040

Beautifully Renovated Ranch in Burns Park with an ideal floor plan for families or entertaining. Spacious living room, bright family room with abundant windows, up-to-the-minute kitchen with breakfast bar seating for eight. Three fireplaces, master bedroom with marble bath. 4,450 sq. ft.; 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 1 half bath.
$1,125,000 • ML#2600932 • Nancy Bishop 734.761.3040

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Showcase Perfection and quality in this newly built Angell area home in a stately setting. Open floor plan allows both gracious entertaining and casual living. Fully landscaped yard with terrace. Dream kitchen of stainless, granite and cherry; soaring ceilings and hardwood floors. 4,150 sq. ft.; 4 bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half baths.
$1,350,000 • ML#2601537 • Carolyn Lepard 734.663.9202

Premiere Walnut Ridge Location. Dramatic entry foyer with curved staircase graces this Bosco Trinity home enhanced with premium trim. Master suite with sitting area shares fireplace with deluxe bath. Chef's kitchen has stainless, granite, walk-in pantry. Living room, library and family room, 2 fireplaces. 3,473 sq. ft.; 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1 half bath.
$869,900 • ML#2600670 • Bill Flood, Julie Svinicki 734.358.7700

Original Barton Hills Village Home with great pond view. Stately traditional brick, carefully renovated from cellar to dome, yet retaining all its vintage 1920s charm. Formal living and dining rooms, library with fireplace, screened veranda, deluxe cook's kitchen and sumptuous master suite with spa. 4,453 sq. ft.; 4 bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half baths.
$1,650,000 • ML#2601330 • Nancy Bishop 734.761.3040

Contemporary Drama on a Grand Scale in Ann Arbor, with large, light-filled living and dining rooms for entertaining. The solarium-style kitchen is perfect for casual dining or parties, with deck access, walk-in pantry. Two family rooms lead to sweeping brick patio. Walk-in closets in all bedrooms, extra large rec room with fireplace. 8,000 sq. ft.; 5 bedrooms; 3 full and 2 half baths.
$1,350,000 • ML#2515996 • Gordon Taylor 734.216.1505

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Christian Montessori ..... .cmsaa.org
Common Grill ..... .commongrill.com
Delux Drapery ..... .deluxdrapery.com
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Grizzly Peak Brewing Company michiganmenu.com
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— April Issue Advertising Deadlines —

Space Reservation: March 2 ■ Camera Ready: March 9

BACK PAGE

I SPY

by Sally Bjork

Where luthier and vegetarian meet.

To enter this month's I Spy contest, use the clue above and photo at right to find the spot shown, and send your entry to the address at the bottom of the page.

"Oh, how I wish we could go canoeing instead of freezing!" wrote Kathleen Peterson. "If this were a day in the summer, we could go over to the Argo Park Canoe Livery, rent a canoe, and spend

the day basking in the sun and floating down the Huron River all the way to Gallup Park!" It is, as Arlene Gardner observed, "a little cold to be in a canoe . . . this time of year," but Shelley Gladwin, for one, "can't wait to go boating in spring."

Gladwin "immediately recognized the Argo Canoe Livery"—February's I Spy—and commented on the park's recent makeover. Amid walking trails and pathways, the Argo Nature Area sports a bold yellow building at 1055 Longshore Drive for canoe, rowboat, and kayak rental from May to October. Clearly visible from across the river, the colorful building and boats are "just north of the dam at Argo Pond . . . [downstream] from the Ann Arbor Rowing Boathouse," where entrant Deanna Hart "row[s] for Huron [High School]." Dam and walkways meet to provide a nice trail for, as Douglas Fraleigh phrased it, "walking around the pond."

The winner of our random drawing, Sonia Schmerl, was one of seventeen Ann Arborites who correctly identified the Argo Park Canoe Livery. She'll receive a copy of Jonathan L. Marwil's *History of Ann Arbor.*

FAKE AD

by Jay Forstner

February's Fake Ad (p. 92) contained energy-saving tips for luxury home owners from the Consolidated Power Company. More than a few of the 135 correct respondents found it ironic that the fictitious utility was offering tips to conserve energy in such a warm winter, but several others said the ad warmed the cockles of their hearts.

Consolidated Power presents

Energy-Saving Tips for Today's Luxury Homeowner

1. Don't light all your chandeliers at once. A good rule of thumb is that if the foyer is properly lit, you don't need to illuminate the music room or library.
2. Don't place your wine refrigerator too close to the sauna. They can have a canceling effect.
3. Save the heated driveway for snowy days. Heating the driveway (or motor room) for cookouts is inefficient. Consider ordering in instead.

For more ideas on how to be energy smart this winter, call us at
(800) 726–7932

CONSOLIDATED POWER
We're all in this together.

"An actual belly laugh at 'Don't light all your chandeliers at once,'" wrote Ann Arbor's Renae Rosencrans.

"I loved the energy-saving tips," wrote Susan Pollans, also of Ann Arbor. "I laughed out loud."

Another Ann Arbor resident, Bradley Reuter, offered his own conservation suggestion: "What about energy-saving tip number four? Instead of using the furnace to heat the home, burn cash in the fireplace to save electricity and fill the home with the scent of wealth."

Susan Irwin, who like the others hails from Ann Arbor, won our drawing. She's taking her gift certificate to Grizzly Peak Brewing Company.

To enter, identify the March Fake Ad by name and page number, and let us know at the address below. The magic word *arborweb*, the name of the Observer's website, is always hidden in the Fake Ad: in February, you could allegedly reach Consolidated Power by dialing 726–7932—or RBO–RWEB. The winner of our random drawing will receive a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue.

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. *Fax:* (734) 769–4950. *E-mail:* penny@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Friday, March 10, will be eligible for the March drawings.

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EVENTS AT A GLANCE

A capsule guide to selected major events in March. See p. 57 for a complete listing of this month's Gallery, Band, and Events reviews. Daily events listings also begin on p. 57.

Classical & Religious Music

- Baritone Jesse Blumberg, Mar. 7
- Vienna Philharmonic, Mar. 9
- Kerrytown Concert House "Celebration of Benjamin Britten," Mar. 10
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Mar. 11
- Belcea Quartet, Mar. 11
- Kirov Orchestra, Mar. 17 & 19
- The Phoenix Ensemble, Mar. 17 & 18
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Mar. 19
- U-M Michigan Chamber Players, Mar. 19
- Contralto Ewa Podles with the DSO in *Tancredi*, Mar. 25
- Birmingham-First Chamber Choir, Mar. 26
- Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Mar. 26
- Flutist Amy Porter (U-M Henry Russel Lecture), Mar. 28
- Tallis Scholars choral ensemble, Mar. 30

Pop, Rock, Blues, & Jazz

- Morgan Heritage (reggae), Mar. 2
- Buckwheat Zydeco, Mar. 3
- Common (hip-hop), Mar. 3
- Darden Smith (singer-songwriter), Mar. 3
- Liz Mandville Greeson (blues), Mar. 4
- Percee P (hip-hop), Mar. 5
- Ellis (singer-songwriter), Mar. 7
- Ted Leo & the Pharmacists (rock), Mar. 8
- Whit Hill & the Postcards (country-folk), Mar. 9
- Of Montreal (pop-rock), Mar. 9
- Stephanie Nakasian Quartet (jazz), Mar. 10
- Blanche (garage country), Mar. 11
- Grazyna Auguscik (jazz), Mar. 11
- Fred Hersch (jazz), Mar. 12
- Dave Alvin (roots-rock), Mar. 12
- Anthony B (reggae), Mar. 12
- RobinElla & the CC String Band, Mar. 13
- Badfish (pop-punk), Mar. 14
- Lee Roy Parnell (country singer-songwriter), Mar. 15
- Chris Buhalis (singer-songwriter), Mar. 16
- The Greencards (bluegrass), Mar. 17
- Frank Morgan (jazz), Mar. 17
- Ben Folds (rock 'n' roll), Mar. 18
- RFD Boys (bluegrass), Mar. 18
- John Hammond (blues), Mar. 19
- Billy Bragg (British troubadour), Mar. 21
- Eddie from Ohio (pop-folk), Mar. 23
- Magnolia Electric Co. (rock 'n' roll), Mar. 24
- Mr. B's Blues & Boogie Piano Celebration with Dave Burrell, Hilton Ruiz, & Bob Seeley, Mar. 24 & 25
- Laurie McClain (country-folk singer-songwriter), Mar. 24
- Zion I (hip-hop), Mar. 24
- Jeremy Kittel (fiddle virtuoso), Mar. 25
- Amazin' Blue (a cappella), Mar. 25
- The Silver Jews (indie rock), Mar. 25
- Sarah Harmer (pop-folk singer-songwriter), Mar. 27
- Brian Joseph (singer-songwriter), Mar. 28
- ICP Orchestra (avant-jazz), Mar. 28
- Mississippi Heat (Chicago blues), Mar. 29
- Tom Russell (Texas singer-songwriter), Mar. 30
- Johnny Cash Tribute with many local performers, Mar. 31
- Ray Bonneville (blues), Mar. 31
- San Francisco Jazz Collective, Mar. 31
- David "Fathead" Newman (jazz), Mar. 31

The Mahabharata

A multimedia production of a tale from the Hindu epic, *The Mahabharata* combines dance, music by the U-M Gamelan Ensemble, and shadow puppetry at Hill Auditorium March 12.

Ethnic & Traditional Music

- Niamh Parsons (Irish), Mar. 6
- Mady Kouyate & the Heat of Africa (Senegalese), Mar. 10
- River Raisin Ragtime Review, Mar. 12
- Solas (Irish), Mar. 14
- Voices of Africa (West African), Mar. 19
- Danu (Celtic), Mar. 22
- Peggy Seeger (folk), Mar. 26

Lectures & Readings

- Novelist Sarah Dunant, Mar. 1
- Novelist Kevin Baker, Mar. 1
- Humorist Joe Queenan, Mar. 6
- Poet Linton Kwesi Johnson, Mar. 7
- Astronomer Sten Odenwald, Mar. 7
- *Fortune* writer Bethany MacLean, Mar. 8
- Poets Charles Bernstein and Tracie Morris, Mar. 9
- Fiction writer Andrea Barrett, Mar. 13
- Poet Robert Pinsky, Mar. 14
- Fiction writer Jess Row, Mar. 16
- Lt. General David Petraeus, Mar. 23
- Poet Robert Hershon, Mar. 23
- Memoirist Ken Foster, Mar. 23
- Poet Anthony Hawley, Mar. 27
- Poets Lorna Goodison and Laura Kasischke, Mar. 30

Conferences & Forums

- U-M "Art by Michigan Prisoners" symposium, Mar. 14–19, 23, 25, & 28
- U-M "Fascism, Film, and Cinematic Modernity" symposium, Mar. 16–18
- U-M Shostakovich symposium, Mar. 18
- U-M "Opera in the Americas—American Opera" conference, Mar. 23–26

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Collie Dog Show, Mar. 2–5
- Dawn Dance Weekend, Mar. 3–5
- U-M Huaren Cultural Show, Mar. 9
- Gemstreet USA Gem Show, Mar. 10–12
- Southeast Michigan Science Fair, Mar. 11
- Builders Home and Improvement Show, Mar. 17–19
- Dexter Pioneer Craft Fair, Mar. 18
- U-M Thai Student Association "Siam Melody," Mar. 18
- Ann Arbor Figure Skating Association "Melody on Ice," Mar. 24–26
- U-M Native American Student Association Powwow, Mar. 25 & 26
- U-M Persian Students Association Cultural Show, Mar. 25

Films

- U-M "Documentary Filmmaking in China" festival, Mar. 14–17
- Ann Arbor Film Festival, Mar. 21–26

Comedy & Performance Art

- Comic Tom Foss, Mar. 2–4
- The Ark Storytelling Festival with Alice McGill, Waddie Mitchell, & others, Mar. 3–5
- Comic Wanda Sykes, Mar. 4
- Ann Arbor Poetry Slam with Buddy Wakefield, Mar. 7
- Comic Andy Kindler, Mar. 9–11
- Performance artist Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Mar. 10
- Comic Jimmy Dore, Mar. 16–18
- Comic Jim Gaffigan, Mar. 17
- Comic Leo Dufour, Mar. 23–25
- Comic Orny Adams, Mar. 30 & 31

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Guest Artist* (Purple Rose Theater), every Wednesday–Sunday through Mar. 18
- *A Thousand Clowns* (Ann Arbor Civic Theater), Mar. 2–5
- *Night Blooming* (BlackBag Productions), Mar. 2–4
- *Tartuffe* (Michigan Classical Repertory Theater), Mar. 2–5
- *Moonglow* (Performance Network), Mar. 2–5
- *Fight Night 2006* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 9–11
- *Broken Glass* (U-M Residential College Players), Mar. 10–12
- *The Mahabharata* (U-M Gamelan Ensemble), Mar. 12
- *Everyman* (EMU Holy Trinity Student Parish), Mar. 15, 16, & 18
- *Master Hoy's Sideshow Cabaret* (Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater), Mar. 15–18 & 22–25
- *Macbett* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 16–18
- Peter Sparling Dance Company, Mar. 16–18
- *Miss Firecracker Contest* (P.T.D. Productions), Mar. 16–19
- *A Doll's House* (Performance Network), Mar. 16–19, 23–26, 30, & 31
- *Pippin* (Greenhills School), Mar. 17, 18, 24, & 25
- *Urinetown* (U-M MUSKET), Mar. 17–19
- *Playfest 2006* (U-M Theater Department), Mar. 20–26
- *Jackie O* (U-M Opera Theater), Mar. 22, 24, & 26
- Children of Uganda song & dance troupe, Mar. 23 & 24
- *Da Organizer* and *The Dreamy Kid* (U-M Opera Theater), Mar. 23 & 25
- *La Purpura de la Rosa* (U-M Opera Theater), Mar. 25
- *Equus* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 30 & 31
- Srishti Dances of India, Mar. 30
- *The Maltese Heron* (Thurston Community Players), Mar. 30 & 31
- *The Burial at Thebes* (U-M Theater Department), Mar. 30 & 31
- *Along Those Lines* (U-M Dance Department M.F.A. Thesis Concert), Mar. 30 & 31
- *The Apple Tree* (Bethlehem United Church of Christ Youth Players), Mar. 31
- *The Idiots Karamazov* (U-M Rude Mechanicals), Mar. 31

Family & Kids' Stuff

- The Ark Storytelling Festival family concert, Mar. 5
- Friends of Chamber Music in Pease "Child's Play," Mar. 12
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra family concert, Mar. 12
- Gemini family concert, Mar. 19
- *Once upon a Time* (Wild Swan Theater), Mar. 23–25
- *Treasure Island* (Young Actors Guild), Mar. 23–25
- U-M Exhibit Museum Discovery Day, Mar. 25
- *The Three Little Pigs* (Performance Network Children's Theater Network), Mar. 25
- Mr. B and Bob Boogie-Woogie Family Show, Mar. 26

Miscellaneous

- Ann Arbor District Library Pittsfield Branch Opening Week Celebration, Mar. 20–26

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- "Financial Planning with *Muggsy's Meadow*" for kids 12 & under, Mar. 18

A&D university of michigan school of art & design

03.2006
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

05 – 11

03.05 – 03.25
EXHIBITION:
FUNCTIONAL: THE ART OF ANNE MONDRO AND CHRIS WHALEY

Through non-utilitarian furniture-like forms, A&D Assistant Professor Anne Mondro and A&D staff member Chris Whaley alter the perception of an object's meaning to highlight the importance of memory.

RECEPTION: FRIDAY, 03.10
6:00 – 9:00pm

Gallery 555
4884 Grand River Avenue, Detroit

03.09

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS PRESENTATION:
JAY ALLISON

Jay Allison is an independent broadcast journalist whose work airs on NPR's *All Things Considered* and *Morning Edition*, PRI's *This American Life*, ABC News' *Nightline*, and other national programs. He is now heard weekly on NPR as the curator and co-producer of *This I Believe*. In partnership with the Knight-Wallace Fellows Program.

SPONSOR MICHIGAN RADIO **PRESENTATION: 5:00pm**

Michigan Theater
603 East Liberty Street, Ann Arbor

02.17 – 03.10
EXHIBITION:
SUBPLOT: ALTERNATIVE VISUAL NARRATIVES

Works that explore the limits of narrative by A&D MFA candidates Bobby Campbell and Chris Landau.

Kerrytown Market in the Everyday Cooks store, above Hollanders, Ann Arbor

12 – 18

02.04 – 03.18
EXHIBITION:
ANIMATE OBJECT

A group exhibition juried by CAID's Board of Trustees including work by A&D MFA candidate Toby Millman and featuring video, painting, sculpture, photography, and installations.

Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit (CAID)
5141 Rosa Parks Boulevard, Detroit

03.14 – 03.29
EXHIBITION:
11TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF ART BY MICHIGAN PRISONERS

Over 300 works of art with a broad range of styles, mediums, and themes, by over 200 artists from 42 prisons, co-curated by A&D Assistant Professor Janie Paul. For a full schedule of events: www.prisonarts.org

RECEPTION: TUESDAY, 03.14
5:30 – 8:00pm

Duderstadt Center Gallery
2281 Bonisteel Boulevard, Ann Arbor

03.16

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS PRESENTATION:
MATTHEW COOLIDGE

Matthew Coolidge is the founder and director of the Center for Land Use Interpretation (CLUI) in Los Angeles, a non-profit art/research organization that employs a multimedia and multidisciplinary approach to increase and diffuse knowledge about how the nation's lands are apportioned, utilized and perceived. In partnership with the School of Natural Resources and the Environment, and the LSA Program in the Environment.

SPONSOR MICHIGAN RADIO **PRESENTATION: 5:00pm**

Michigan Theater
603 East Liberty Street, Ann Arbor

19 – 25

02.24 – 03.24
EXHIBITION:
FROM WHERE WE ARE CALLING

First year A&D MFA candidates showing video, sculpture, drawing, installation and sound pieces.

RECEPTION: FRIDAY, 03.10
6:00 – 9:00pm

Warren Robbins Gallery
2000 Bonisteel Boulevard, Ann Arbor

02.24 – 03.24
EXHIBITION:
ENDLESS FORMS: ENGAGING EVOLUTION

Organized by *A&D Life*, this exhibition focuses on the five mechanisms of organic biological evolution: natural selection, sexual selection, mutation, migration and genetic drift.

RECEPTION: FRIDAY, 03.10
6:00 – 9:00pm

Work
306 South State Street, Ann Arbor

02.24 – 03.24

EXHIBITION:
TRACES

An eclectic interdisciplinary, intermedia, intertextual, and interactive exhibition featuring nine A&D MFA candidates whose only similarity is their selection of the School of Art & Design as their venue for graduate study.

RECEPTION: FRIDAY, 03.10, 6:00 – 9:00pm

Jean Paul Slusser Gallery
2000 Bonisteel Boulevard, Ann Arbor

03.23
PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS PRESENTATION:
"FROZEN ANGELS" WITH FILMMAKERS ERIC BLACK AND FRAUKE SANDIG

The second collaboration between filmmakers Frauke Sandig and Eric Black, "Frozen Angels" is a startling glimpse into the future of the American Dream, where "perfect children" can simply be added to the shopping list. In partnership with the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, the LSA Evolution Film Series, and in conjunction with the Ann Arbor Film Festival.

SPONSOR MICHIGAN RADIO **PRESENTATION: 5:00pm**

Michigan Theater
603 East Liberty Street, Ann Arbor

3.24
PRESENTATION:
THE FLOCKING PARTY

A&D MFA Candidate Chris Landau discusses his project, "The Flocking Party", in conjunction with the "Endless Forms: Engaging Evolution" exhibition, which Landau is co-curating with the student group, *A&DLife*. Landau's project addresses environmental, technological, and aesthetic concerns through a web based interactive, multi-linear narrative. And it's all about the birds.

PRESENTATION: 2:00pm

Work
306 South State Street, Ann Arbor

26 – 31

02.15 – 03.26

EXHIBITION:
BEAUTY/THE SUBLIME/ INTENSITY

A group exhibition focused on concepts of beauty, including work by A&D MFA candidate Brent Fogt.

The Gallery Project
215 South Fourth Avenue, Ann Arbor

3.30
PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS PRESENTATION:
ORLAN

French artist Orlan uses her body as subject matter for her work. Through her painting, sculpture, poetry, photography, and video she addresses themes of disfiguration and refiguration, virtual and real, beauty and the grotesque, as well as sexuality, female identity, and Catholic symbolism. In partnership with the Program in Comparative Literature and the Department of English Language and Literature.

PRESENTATION: 5:00pm SPONSOR MICHIGAN RADIO

Michigan Theater
603 East Liberty Street, Ann Arbor

3.31 – 4.30

EXHIBITION:
4TH ANNUAL A&D ALL STUDENT EXHIBITION

Encompassing all three of the School's exhibition venues, this is the most comprehensive A&D student exhibition of the year with work by both undergraduate and graduate students.

RECEPTION: FRIDAY, 03.31
6:00–9:00pm

Jean Paul Slusser Gallery, 2000 Bonisteel Boulevard
Warren Robbins Gallery, 2000 Bonisteel Boulevard
Work, 306 South State Street

Sign language interpreter provided upon advance request for lectures. University of Michigan, School of Art & Design, Art & Architecture Building, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2069
Most events are free and open to the public. For more information, please call 734.763.1265 or email: katewest@umich.edu **http://www.art-design.umich.edu**

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